



THE ENGLISH COLLEGE IN PRAGUE
ANGLICKÉ GYMNÁZIUM

The Graduation & Prize Giving Ceremony

25TH MAY 2018 AT 6 PM
CEREMONIAL HALL OF THE CZECH TECHNICAL
UNIVERSITY - BETHLEHEM CHAPEL
BETLÉMSKÉ NÁMĚSTÍ 255/4, PRAHA



The English College in Prague opened in September 1994 as a 6-year grammar school with high academic standards, the first IB school in the Czech Republic. Its Founding Patrons were President Václav Havel and HRH The Prince of Wales. ECP offers the IB Diploma together with the Czech Maturita. The Graduation and Prize Giving ceremony serves two purposes: students with outstanding achievements in both academic and co-curricular work in the current academic year are awarded prizes and the Graduands of 2018 are awarded their graduation certificates.

The names of the prize winners will be announced by Petr Fiman, one of the Governors of the English College and a former student, having graduated in 2004. They are congratulated by the Guest Speaker and are handed their prize by the Senior Deputy Head. The Chairman of Governors' Prize for Academic Achievement is presented by the Chairman of Governors.

Additionally, this year we have some guest presenters. The Sebastian Barker Prize for English will be presented by Hilary Davies, wife of the late Sebastian Barker. The Professor Slavik Prize for Czech will be presented by Jiří Berounský, a student at the Prague English Grammar School where Professor Slavik was a teacher. The Otto Wichterle Prize for Chemistry will be presented by Ludmila Wichterlová, wife of the late Otto Wichterle and the Jan Grossman Prize for Drama will be presented by Marie Málková, actress and wife of the late Jan Grossman.

The names of the Graduands are announced by Emily Rankin, Deputy Head (Upper School). They are congratulated by the Chairman of Governors and are handed their certificates by the Headmaster.

Programme 2018

Procession of the Graduands

*March of the Legion of
Students by Bedřich Smetana*

Headmaster's Welcome

Address

Dr. Nigel Brown

All of Me by John Schmidt

Jakub Müller (Y5, piano)

Address by the Guest of Honour

Stuart Laing MA MPhil
*Master of Corpus Christi,
Cambridge*

Nocturne in C sharp minor by Frederic Chopin

Alexandr Grudinov (Y6,
piano)

Presentation of the Prizes by the Guest of Honour

People Help the People by Cherry Ghost

Anežka Bečková (Y1, vocals
& piano)

Address by the Chairman of Governors

Ann Lewis CMG

Gaudeamus Igitur (anonymous)

Voices of ECP

Presentation of Certificates by the Chairman of Governors and Headmaster

Ann Lewis CMG
Dr. Nigel Brown

Hammers by Nils Frahm

Anna Stančíková (Y6, piano)

Vote of thanks by a Representative of the Graduands

Samanta Rožánková

Too Good At Goodbyes by Sam Smith

Agáta Nedbalová (Y5, vocals)

Unwritten by Natasha Bedingfield

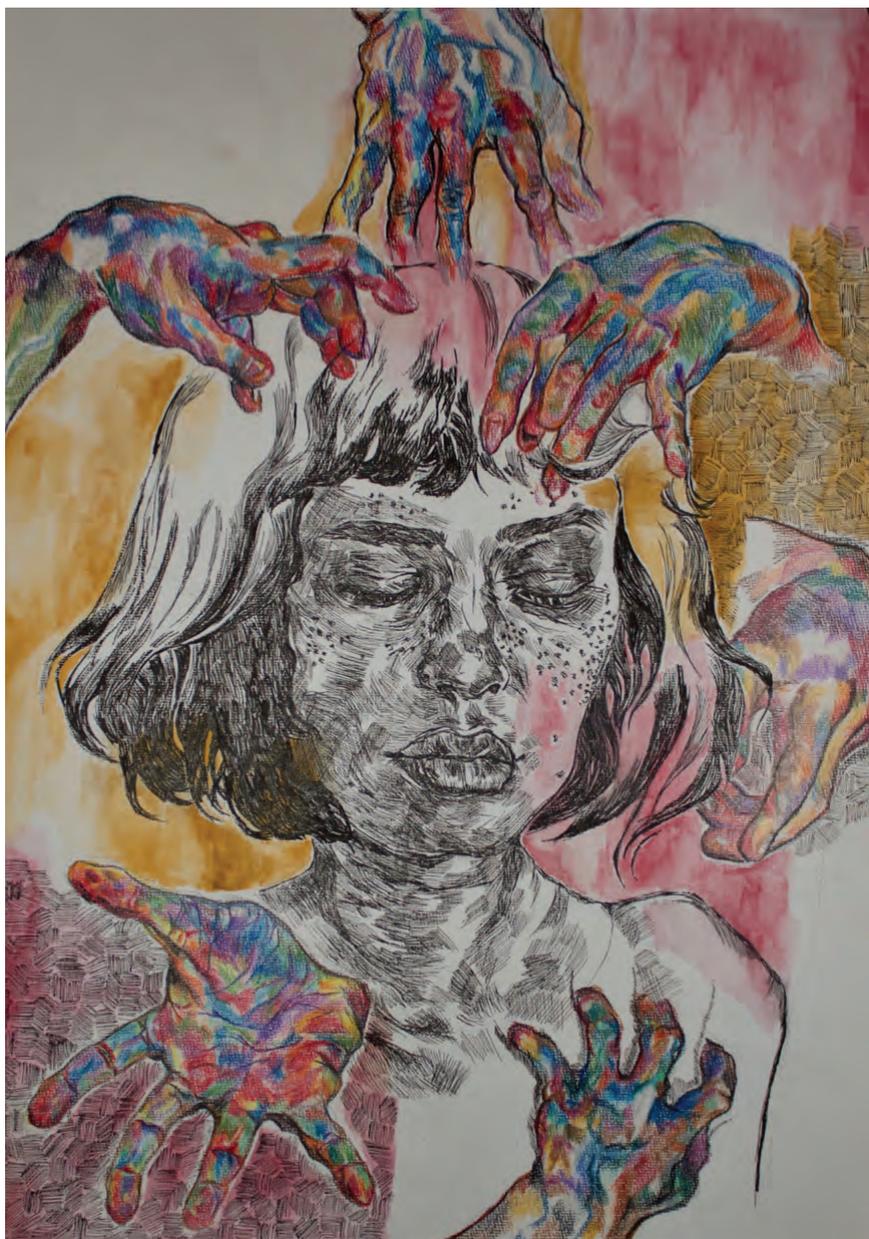
Suzanne Scarlett Bessiso
(Y6, vocals), Natálie
Barešová (Y6, vocals),
Alexandr Grudinov (Y6,
guitar), Adriana Štaudová
(Y6, piano)

Procession of the Graduates

*Trumpet Tune and Air by
Henry Purcell*

organist
Bohumír Rabas

Refreshments will be served
after the ceremony



“Altered” detail

Markéta Vašíčková
Y6

Comments on Prize Winners 2018

THE PROFESSOR SLAVÍK PRIZE FOR CZECH LOWER SCHOOL

Michaela Vladyková

Michaela Vladyková is a student who always puts maximum effort into everything she does – active participation in lessons as well as homework preparation. She is well-read and her knowledge of the historical development of literature is extensive. Michaela has an inquisitive mind and often reflects on literary texts; therefore, her understanding of literature is constantly improving. Her written work is imaginative, accurate and well-structured. Michaela always strives to do her best in her native language and she sets an excellent example for others.

THE KAREL AND JOSEF ČAPEK PRIZE FOR CZECH UPPER SCHOOL

Markéta Vašíčková

Markéta has made enormous progress in her Czech IB studies. She has not only de-

veloped excellent analytical skills, but she is also very independent in her extended studies. Her essays are at university level, her oral presentations are always well-structured, clear and convincing. She is always asking questions and her understanding of literature is constantly improving because of this positive attitude. She has also been involved in all the trips organised by the Czech department and as an artist, she has contributed to the literary events by creating posters. Markéta also deserves the Karel and Josef Čapek prize because her use of language is accurate and yet very innovative.

THE PAVEL EISNER PRIZE FOR CZECH (NON-CZECH STUDENT) LOWER SCHOOL

Máté Kelemen-Tóth

Máté joined the English College in September 2017 as a complete beginner in the Czech language. He was a part of a group of Slavic students who were much more

advanced, but Máté did not consider this situation unfortunate; on the contrary, he saw it as a real opportunity and personal challenge. He has put the maximum effort into his studies, not only at school but also at home, practising with his mother. He has an inquisitive mind and is always asking more questions. His responsible approach and hard work have borne fruit – he is now a true member of the Slavic group, working at the same level and able to converse with them.

THE SEBASTIAN BARKER PRIZE FOR ENGLISH LOWER SCHOOL

Sára Emma Hamplová

Sára's work has reached an excellent standard. Her love for literature has blossomed over the past year and she has consistently demonstrated that she is an astute and sensitive reader of texts and has a keen and enquiring mind. Her approach to lessons has been unfailingly conscientious and enthusiastic.

THE LIGHTFOOT PRIZE FOR ENGLISH UPPER SCHOOL

Markéta Vašíčková

Markéta's appreciation of English has grown and flourished over the past year. She has worked exceptionally hard, and has developed a perceptive understanding of the author's craft and a critic's eye for how literature reveals itself to the reader. Her writing shows creativity, confidence and flair and communicates her understanding effectively and with style.

MATHEMATICS LOWER SCHOOL

Jialei Ye

Jialei is an extremely talented mathematician who has attained consistently strong results over the course of the past year. She puts the maximum effort into any task set and uses her inquisitive nature to find alternative and interesting strategies for solving problems. In addition, she achieved a Gold award in the intermediate UKMT Maths Challenge in which she displayed excellent higher order thinking skills.

THE RONALD RANKIN PRIZE FOR MATHEMATICS UPPER SCHOOL

Adéla Víšková

During her IB studies, Adéla has been an exemplary student who has always excelled in the challenging HL Mathematics course. She consistently demonstrated great ability in problem solving and achieved an amazing result in the mock examinations.

CHEMISTRY LOWER SCHOOL

Sára Emma Hamplová

Sára Emma is an incredibly talented student who has shown a great passion for Chemistry over the past few years. She is always asking questions, looking to further her understanding and is always keen to take a lead role in class discussions. Sára Emma is always happy to help her peers and shows great patience when helping others. She has also pursued her interest outside the classroom and has been involved in extra-curricular Chemistry activities both in and out of school.





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“Prologue”

Clémentine Desprat

Y6

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“The Earth”

Michal Zapletal

Y6

THE OTTO WICHTERLE PRIZE FOR CHEMISTRY UPPER SCHOOL

Adéla Víšková

Adéla is a highly enthusiastic student who has continuously produced work of a very high standard and has achieved excellent results in all aspects of the subject. She is very eager to learn and participates in class activities with great enthusiasm. Her motivation and hard work are an example to others.

COMPUTER SCIENCE LOWER SCHOOL

Linh Gia Nguyen

Linh Gia often takes his learning beyond the classroom. He has thrived in an environment of open-ended tasks, where he always seeks to go down the route of new inquiry and challenge.

COMPUTER SCIENCE UPPER SCHOOL

Jan Kolařík

Jan epitomises the IB Learner Profile. He is open-minded to taking risks, reflecting on all failures to enhance his thinking skills through conceptualising knowledge. He is consistently principled in how he communicates with both groups and single peers, displaying a balanced equilibrium of both caring empathy towards some and a thirst to inquire with others.

PHYSICS LOWER SCHOOL

Jialei Ye

Jialei is an exemplary student. She has a deep understanding of the principles of Physics and can apply her knowledge to solve complex problems. She is also a conscientious student, consistently completing both class and homework to a high standard. These traits combined

make her a worthy winner of the lower school Physics prize.

PHYSICS UPPER SCHOOL

Jan Kolařík

Since starting IB Physics, Jan's approach to his studies has been outstanding. Initially his layout of calculations was poor but after some clear advice he improved this to such an extent that his work is now an example to others. He very quickly grasps new topics but always pushes himself to go beyond 'good enough'; he fully deserves this Physics prize and no doubt will continue to excel at university.

GEOGRAPHY LOWER SCHOOL

Sabrina Seidl

Sabrina has been a dedicated member of the Geography course who is keen to explore topics beyond the curriculum and has consistently attained top levels in her work. Her attention to detail and ability to link multiple concepts to a case study allows her to understand the various factors at play. Her positive approach and leadership have not only supported her own academic growth on the course, but also that of her classmates.

GEOGRAPHY UPPER SCHOOL

Natálie Nováková

The Geography prize has been awarded to Natálie for her excellent commitment and enthusiasm for the subject. Her keen interest has been evident in her extended reading on all topics on the course and her detailed research and analysis presented in her Geography Extended Essay. Natálie has been consistently engaged in class and

has contributed to discussions with insight. Her strong geographical skills and excellent grades throughout the IB course make her worthy of this prize.

ENVIRONMENTAL SYSTEMS AND SOCIETIES UPPER SCHOOL

Ekaterina Mikhaylova

Ekaterina has worked studiously and positively throughout the course. Her curiosity during lessons and her impressive researching skills have helped her to achieve excellent grades. This was complemented by her interesting and focused Extended Essay, which supported and expanded her knowledge in Environmental Science.

BIOLOGY LOWER SCHOOL

Karolína Zvoníčková

Karolína is an exceptionally talented scientist and has exhibited qualities of an exemplary student throughout her time at the College so far. She is ambitious to study Biology at Higher Level and also further on into university. Her areas of interest include neurodegenerative diseases and the challenges surrounding the development of new treatments of opioid addiction. It is excellent to see a student so focused on areas that interest her most. Well done, Karolína.

BIOLOGY UPPER SCHOOL

Adéla Víšková

Adéla is an exceptional student. She has great insight and depth of understanding and has achieved outstanding grades throughout her IB course. Even though she has produced excellent work, she has always made the maximum effort to improve further. She is

not content to just know something; she works with a smile and steely focus until she has complete mastery of the topic.

HISTORY LOWER SCHOOL

Linda Novobilská

Linda is an excellent student of History who has consistently achieved top grades. Her work has demonstrated an excellent knowledge of the themes covered in class and her written work highlights her ability to effectively analyse and present good arguments. She is engaged in class and makes valuable contributions to discussions.

THE JIŘÍ HOVORKA PRIZE FOR HISTORY UPPER SCHOOL

Benedetta Locatelli

Benedetta is an outstanding student of History. Her classwork has always been of the highest standard, and in a competitive class, she can hold her own in an argument. She always makes positive contributions to class debate, and her opinions are often insightful. In this regard, although there are many other students who are also excellent debaters, her overall dedication to the subject makes her worthy of this award.

ECONOMICS UPPER SCHOOL

Jan Kolařík

Jan has been awarded this prize for his achievement, contribution and enthusiasm in Economics this year. Jan has shown an interest in Economics from the first day of lessons. He enjoys applying what we learn on the course to real world situations and is able to see where theory and reality diverge. He is extremely hard working and has showed

real passion and application in the subject through his Extended Essay.

PSYCHOLOGY UPPER SCHOOL

Adéla Sloupenská

Adéla has worked incredibly hard and contributed to lessons throughout the course. She is a positive and enthusiastic student who loves Psychology. Her support for others is selfless, and she deserves this prize for the dedication, talent and good humour that she brings to every class.

THE PROFESSOR ROGER SCRUTON PRIZE FOR PHILOSOPHY UPPER SCHOOL

Huyen Anh Dinh

Huyen Anh's love of Philosophy is evident to all who know her. Her work in class has been outstanding. Her Extended Essay was a rigorous and deep enquiry into a philosophical issue. She has a vast knowledge of the ideas of many philosophers, but more importantly, she questions everything. She will certainly question whether this prize should exist at all and what its value is. Of course, she will carry on studying Philosophy at university next year, and we wish her every success with her future philosophical inquiries.

DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE LOWER SCHOOL

Sabina Hammacheová

The prize for Dramatic Performance has been awarded to Sabina for her outstanding delivery of the role of Mrs Manningham in the production of *Gaslight* by Patrick Hamilton

DRAMATIC PERFORMANCE UPPER SCHOOL

Anna Davis

Anna has been awarded the prize for Dra-

matic Performance for participation as an actress in multitudinous projects over the course of her studies at the English College and for her direction of *Gaslight* by Patrick Hamilton.

DRAMA LOWER SCHOOL

Sára Svobodová

Sára has been awarded the Drama prize for receiving the top score in the LAMDA exams with an outstanding 91/100 at Silver Medal level.

THE JAN GROSSMAN PRIZE FOR DRAMA UPPER SCHOOL

Eliška Havlíčková

Eliška is awarded the Drama prize for her commitment, dedication and excellence in both the internal and external assessments for IB Theatre.

MUSIC LOWER SCHOOL

Anežka Bečková

Anežka has successfully performed at almost every school public event including the Christmas and Václav Havel Scholarship concerts, Open Mic, various parents evenings, the British Chamber of Commerce's British Market, school assemblies and the opening of the music courtyard. She has always been excited by trying to learn new songs and her attitude and commitment to the preparation for the performances have been excellent.

MUSIC UPPER SCHOOL

Alexandr Grudinov

Alexandr's guitar and piano performances have been, and are always, at a high level. He is a



“Untitled”

Ly Leová
Y6

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“IGCSE Work”

Eliška Dvořáčková
Y4



sensitive musician with a great approach towards the different musical styles. There has not been a single major music event at which Alexandr did not perform. Hopefully, he will continue to develop further both his musicianship and creative skills in his future music studies at university.

ART & DESIGN LOWER SCHOOL

Eliška Dvořáčková

Eliška has been a consistently high achiever throughout the IGCSE Art & Design course. She has impressed with her commitment, her determination to produce her best work in every task and the positive influence she has had on her peers. Her drawing and painting skills are outstanding. In watercolour, her favoured medium, she has reached a level of sophistication far beyond her years. Rarely has a student shown such dedication, focus and natural flair. A most deserving winner of the Junior Art prize.

ART & DESIGN UPPER SCHOOL

Thuy Ly Leová

Ly is an exceptional student with a positive, proactive approach to everything she does. She is self-assured and calm during stressful times and her excellent work ethic has stood her in good stead both as an Art Scholar and in her many other creative pursuits. Her technical, analytical skills are impressive and the commitment of time and energy she gives to the subject clearly reflects her passion for Art and Design. She is self-motivated and independent but takes advice on board with enthusiasm. A worthy winner of the Senior Art prize.

RUSSIAN LOWER SCHOOL

Terezie Květoňová

Terezie displays exceptional commitment and enthusiasm for learning the Russian language. She is an excellent student, full of energy, hard-working and a highly talented linguist. After only two years of studying Russian, she is now able to communicate in basic situations.

RUSSIAN UPPER SCHOOL

Dominik Patočka

Dominik has always been a hard-working student with exceptional enthusiasm and excitement for learning not only Russian language but also about Russian culture. He has always participated in all extra-curricular activities connected to the Russian language. He has continued to put a lot of effort into his studies and he really deserves his success.

FRENCH LOWER SCHOOL

Sabina Hammacheová

Sabina receives this award for her outstanding performance in French. She always tries to refine her understanding and knowledge so she can use more elaborate language. She is truly passionate about the French language and culture and she takes her learning beyond the classroom.

FRENCH UPPER SCHOOL

Natália Brízová

Natália is passionate about the French language and has also shown a keen interest in literature. This prize is awarded in recognition of her achievements in Years 5 and 6. She has made a lot of progress in a relatively short period of time thanks to her motiva-



“More than the First Glance”

Natálie Barešová
Y6

tion and determination. She plans to continue to study French at university and we wish her every success in the future.

SPANISH LOWER SCHOOL

Jessica Rusnoková

Jessica has worked consistently over the whole year and has shown great commitment to improving her Spanish. She has made significant progress, is always willing to work extra hard to achieve better results and always hands in assignments on time, with clear thinking and analysis. Jessica's talent for the language will be of great use to her over the next two years on the IB Spanish course.

SPANISH UPPER SCHOOL

Kryštof Burýšek

Kryštof has worked very hard over the course of the whole year and his ability in Spanish is unquestionable, not only spoken but also written. His oral presentation skills are excellent and he has mastered his speech techniques, making it a delight to listen to his contributions in class discussions, as well as to read his written assignments. Kryštof is a deserving winner of the prize.

GERMAN LOWER SCHOOL

Linda Novobilská

Linda is a self-motivated student who always keeps a positive attitude to the subject. Having achieved an admirably high level of fluency and accuracy, she is able to analyse and solve language tasks both critically and creatively. Her letter addressed to a member of the German community expelled from Sudetenland after the Second World War

showed both awareness of varying points of view and empathy for difficult life situations. A truly deserved prize.

GERMAN UPPER SCHOOL

Anetta Best

Throughout her IB course in German Anetta has shown total commitment. Her participation in lessons has been exemplary, and her diligence in producing high quality work, invariably on time, is quite an achievement. Her decision to write her Extended Essay in German showed a tremendous desire to set herself a difficult challenge. She rose to this with admirable determination and overcame numerous hurdles to ultimately produce a fine piece of work. Rarely has such a command of the German language and such passion to improve been seen from someone at this stage of their education.

THEORY OF KNOWLEDGE UPPER SCHOOL

Adéla Sloupenská

Adéla has been an exceptional student in Theory of Knowledge. She used the tools of ToK to tackle the concept of gender in her formal presentation. She has the ability to look at a topic from different perspectives and to treat them with intellectual respect. Her written work is always to a high standard and her intellectual curiosity is shown in discussions in class. She is a worthy winner.

CAS UPPER SCHOOL

Natálie Barešová

Natálie has been heavily involved in several charities and service projects including work at the Villa Vallila and the Czech National Trust. Her CAS project went even further

where she planned and organised a new library system for a hospice, greatly enhancing the lives of people who had not long to live. She also managed to find the time to run competitively in athletics and to dance in ballet performances. She also sang in the school choir to round off her creative endeavours. Not only is Natálie a well-rounded, selfless and giving student, she has also been an excellent role model for her peers.

**SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT GIRL
LOWER SCHOOL**

Sára Svobodová

Sára is a worthy winner of the Sporting Achievement award for her continuously enthusiastic and fully committed approach to all sports activities. She always sets a positive example to all other students in each and every PE class as well as at every interhouse event and on all sports trips.

**SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT GIRL
UPPER SCHOOL**

Tereza Kejvalová

For the promotion of team spirit in all different team games and excellent representation of the College in various contests. Tereza never hesitates to invest full effort in any sports activity.

**SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT BOY
LOWER SCHOOL**

Diego Štumpa

The Sporting Achievement award goes to Diego for setting the best example to all other students with his enthusiastic and courageous approach to all different activities, challenges and competitions within the boundaries of

the subject. He also fulfils very well the ideal of sportsmanship that we try to foster in all sports.

**SPORTING ACHIEVEMENT BOY
UPPER SCHOOL**

Ondřej Svoboda

For being a ball games promoter, and especially the game of floorball. Ondřej performs excellent work not only as a player but also as a coach, even attending extra classes in his spare time to promote the sport and help his peers to improve.

COBIS AWARD FOR ACADEMIC EXCELLENCE

Linda Novobilská

Year after year, across every subject, Linda consistently works with great dedication, and at a very high standard. Indeed, finding targets for her to improve can be a real struggle. All of this is done with minimum fuss, maximum humility and a genuine concern for those around her. Linda is a truly worthy winner of this award.

COBIS AWARD FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE

Tobiáš Mrkvička

Tobiáš has been involved in many different charitable activities over a long period of time. He has helped to find accommodation for refugees from Eastern Europe, he regularly plays chess with mentally disabled people, he has been working extensively with the homeless community by arranging and distributing clothes for them, serving soup and just talking to them. Many people working on a CAS project think about their influence on society, but instead, Tobiáš thinks in a straightforward and more direct way about

how to help people in need. Rather than complicated projects, his work is simple, but very effective and very impressive. Tobiáš also does not talk about his charity work or care about receiving publicity for it.

HEADMASTER'S PRIZE FOR SERVICES TO THE SCHOOL

Natália Brízová

Natália Brízová has been heavily involved in charity and service throughout both Diploma years. The SMILE project for the children's home in Dolní Počernice has been one of her most outstanding contributions, along with service at the Villa Vallila and the Royal British Legion Poppy Appeal. She is also well-rounded in her guitar playing, her involvement in the Chemistry Club and her completion of the Gold International Duke of Edinburgh's Award. Her commitment to the community was also demonstrated in her efforts for the successful TEDx event.

CHAIRMAN OF GOVERNORS' PRIZE FOR ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT (YEAR 6)

Mark Revan Rangotis

Not only does Mark have the highest IB predicted score in his year group, but he has also consistently demonstrated a thirst for knowledge that just cannot be quenched. Teach Mark a topic in your course and he will investigate its context, its origins, what theorists or critics have written about it. He simply loves learning, and this trait is palpable in his school report and his recent offer of a place at Oxford. Mark, one of our Barta scholars, is the epitome of a dedicated academic, and we look forward to following where his lifelong learning takes him.

THE JAN BARTA PRIZE

Matyáš Pilin

Since Matyáš joined the ECP in Year 3, he has stood out as a unique thinker and student. He has always looked to further his experiences, such as learning additional languages outside school, and he has not been afraid to challenge his peers' (and teachers'!) views, especially if he disagrees with them. His debating strengths have helped him to win many discussions over the years, and he will undoubtedly continue with this passion, along with his passion for the theatre and writing. This eclectic mix of talents and strengths means that Matyáš is a worthy winner of this prize, and there is no doubt they will also help him to be a successful leader in the future.

THE LORD HOLME PRIZE FOR SERVICE TO THE COMMUNITY

Natálie Nováková

Natálie's involvement in the SMILE project has been incredible. Not only was it her idea - and last year she and her team managed to organise various events and activities to raise money and support the residents of the children's home in Dolní Počernice - but Natálie's heart is in the project. This academic year, she has worked very hard to establish a new team of volunteers who will take over this charitable activity and she has fulfilled her goal.



“Insecurity”

Markéta Vašíčková
Y6



“Discrimination and Prejudice”

Thu Hang Tran
Y6

List of Year 6 Students

Tutor: Glenn Bleaks

Natálie Barešová
Linda Fialová
Alfred Jasanský
Veronika Karásková
Hubert Kobr
Jan Kolařík
Rozálie Kolínová

Isabela Mesquita Costa
Oliveira
Nguyen Van Nguyen
Prokop Prach
Anna Stančíková
Thu Hang Tran

Markéta Vašíčková
Johana Wichterlová
Michal Zapletal

Tutor: Stephen Elder

Mariana Bečková
Adam Bórik
Kryštof Buryšek
Adam Čapek
Georgia Marie Griesbaum

Eliška Havlíčková
Karolina Hrnčířiková
Jáchym Kraus
Anh Duc Nguyen
Viet Cuong Nguyen

Sunny Shu
Eliška Vacková
Alexandra Vavrušková
Gabriela Vojtová
Stepan Zhidkov

Tutor: Ann Daly

Karapet Aleksanyan
Alexander Čejka
Anna Davis
Zi Rong Liu
Benedetta Locatelli

Tobiáš Mrkvička
Barbora Nosková
Natálie Nováková
Rozalie Pavlíková
Samanta Rožánková

David Šimek
Adéla Sloupenská
Martin Štěpánek
Ovsep Virabyan
Vanda Volčíková

Tutor: Katalin Biro

Adam Al Daher
Suzanne Scarlett Bessiso
Natália Brízová
Clémentine Desprat
Alexandr Grudinov
Marek Horváth

Ekaterina Mikhaylova
Dat Nguyen Vu Tuan
Tomáš Pavlovič
Anastasia Petrikeeva
Mark Revan Rangotis

Barbora Rozálie Strnadová
Duc Manh Tran
Petr Vaníček
Adéla Víšková
Kryštof Adam

Tutor: Teresa Collier

Daniel Bek
Anetta Best
Huyen Anh Dinh
Viet Tung Do
Elis Goto

Lucie Jelínková
Karolína Krautstenglová
Yong Fen Lai
Tereza Martínková
Kristýna Pešková

Matyáš Pilin
Christian Richter
Adam Sajputdinov
Adriana Štaudová
Sára Vlčková

Guests of Honour



Ann Lewis CMG
Chairman of the Board of Governors

Founder Governor of the English College in Prague. Free-lance editor and consultant. Former Member of Her Majesty's Diplomatic Service who spent most of her diplomatic career dealing with Central and Eastern Europe.



Stuart Laing MA MPhil

Stuart Laing has been Master of Corpus Christi College, Cambridge since October 2008, after a first career in the British Foreign Service. He specialised in Arab and Middle Eastern affairs, serving in Saudi Arabia and in Cairo early in his career, and then as High Commissioner to Brunei, Ambassador in Muscat, and Ambassador in Kuwait. He was also Deputy Ambassador in Prague at the time of the Velvet Revolution and for two years afterwards (1989–1992).



“The Metamorphosis shirt”

Vanda Volčičková
Y6

A Note on the Prizes

Every year teachers nominate students who have made a notable contribution to their subject. Departments choose students from the upper and lower school. Many prizes are awarded in memory of those who have had a special relationship with the College and by those who continue to celebrate a connection.

The Jan Grossman Prize for Drama

Jan Grossman (1925–1993) attended the Prague English Grammar School during the 1930s, but WWII interrupted his education. Nevertheless, he retained a perfect command of the English language and during the war, he was a member of the non-Communist resistance. Afterwards, he studied at Charles University and became a literary critic and editor, but was uncompromising in what he wrote and was banned from publishing.

As an alternative career he decided to work

in the theatre and in 1962 was appointed head of the drama company at the *Theatre on the Balustrade*. His programme there became a legend, and included the encouragement of new dramatists, one of whom was his close colleague, Václav Havel, whose first three plays were written under Grossman's supervision. Grossman was also best man at Havel's wedding. After 1968 Grossman was banned from working in Prague and after 1976, from working abroad. He was allowed to work in the provinces only as a guest and was continually harassed by the secret police. His productions during these years were also legendary, but his health had

deteriorated and although in 1990 he was re-appointed to his former position at the Theatre on the Balustrade, he died a few years later.

Jan Grossman was a person of complete

integrity who inspired deep loyalty and in 1995 he was posthumously awarded the Medal of Merit (First Class) by President Václav Havel.

The Otto Wichterle Prize for Chemistry

Otto Wichterle is remembered as the inventor of the soft contact lens. He was born in Prostějov, the son of an agricultural machinery manufacturer. After leaving secondary school, he studied at the Czech Technical University and graduated in 1936, but the closure of Czech universities by the Nazis brought an end of his post-graduate studies and he joined Bata's research institute in Zlín. He was imprisoned and interrogated by the Nazis from 1942-1943. After the war, he returned to Charles University, specialising in organic chemistry and in 1952, he was made Dean of the newly established Institute of Chemical Technology in Prague and later, Professor of Macromolecular Chemistry at the Czech Technical University.

In 1961, he started to manufacture hydrophilic soft contact lenses, which he had first developed on his kitchen table using the motor from a gramophone and pieces from the toy construction set Merkur. The idea for contact lenses came when he was stirring his coffee and observed the surface, which was forming a parabola. Over the next few years, he worked on developing substances

suitable for the production of contact lenses. In 1968, Wichterle supported Alexander Dubček and his Prague Spring reforms. When Czechoslovakia was invaded, and Dubček arrested, he was dismissed from his position as Director of the Institute of Macromolecular Chemistry. He signed the Two Thousand Words manifesto, calling for the continuation of the democratisation process, begun during the Prague Spring.

In 1989, Wichterle was able to resume his work, was elected head of the Czechoslovak Academy of Sciences and received many awards and honorary doctorates. He registered around 180 patents and wrote over 200 publications on various aspects of organic, inorganic and macro molecular chemistry, polymer science and biomedical materials. In 1993, an asteroid was named after him and he died in 1998 .

After World War II Wichterle returned to the university, specializing in organic chemistry, and was active in teaching general and inorganic chemistry. In 1952 he was made the dean of the newly established Institute of Chemical Technology in Prague.

The Professor Sir Roger Scruton Prize for Philosophy

Roger Scruton was born in 1944 and studied philosophy at Cambridge University, where he wrote his PhD on Art and imagination, a study in the philosophy of mind. The events of 1968, particularly in France, caused him to reject destructive left-wing attitudes and confirmed him as a conservative. In a memoir, *Gentle Regrets*, he describes how he was influenced by the philosopher Edmund Burke, and became persuaded that the Utopian promises of Socialism bear little relation to the way people really think. From 1971 he taught at Birkbeck College, London, where he became Professor of Aesthetics. In 1979 he was invited to lecture at the underground philosophy seminars in Prague and realised the hunger for philosophy among young people in Communist Czechoslovakia. He co-founded the Jan Hus

Educational Foundation and worked with Czech and Slovak colleagues to extend the seminars to Brno and Bratislava. In 1985 the Communist regime placed him on the Index of Undesirable Persons. After 1989 he worked to establish the JHEF as an educational charity in the Czech and Slovak Republics. He has published more than 50 books, including a novel about the underground university, *Notes from Underground*, and was a founder-governor of the English College. He was awarded the Medal of Merit (First Class) by President Václav Havel in 1998 and knighted by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth in 2016.

The Professor Jaroslav Slavík Prize for Czech

Professor Slavík was a teacher at the Prague

English Grammar School where he was very demanding, but loved and respected by the students. He was imprisoned by the communists for supporting his students in their work against the regime. Here, one of those students, Jiří Berounský writes this tribute to him:

Professor Jaroslav Slavík taught us Czech at the then English State Gymnázium. However, Czech lessons were not only about the language and its unpopular grammar, they were also lectures on philosophy, civic education, comparative literature. There were two, three students with Grade 7 in the class, as professor Slavík™ and he was a professor in the true sense of the word – he was educated, pedagogically and rhetorically

funded, and therefore he was very demanding. He appreciated critical thinking during oral and written assignments and in written compositions. He taught us to evaluate the literary work, to perceive its construction and its style, not only to narrate its content as we were used to in our previous schools. (After the war, it was possible to join the English State Gymnázium in the third year, so everyone had to attend some other school before joining the Gymnázium.)

As far as I remember, he never had to give any warnings or reprimands to students. His interpretations of the lectured topics were so interesting and gripping that there was no one in the class who would dare to disturb. He also initiated and organised some extra-curricular activities – recitative and

literary competitions. As far as I know, his authority and education were respected by other members of the teaching staff.

Because of his essential democratic belief, he could not reject the offer of his four students, then the 'Septimans', to work illegally against the totalitarian communist regime. The illegal work of these pupils was manifested by writing leaflets and placing them in telephone booths and especially by stealing the 'ČSM' school file, where active volunteers drew attention to the various political misconduct and opinions of their classmates. Probably because of one member of the teaching staff, who was involved in other anti-regime activities, the group around Professor Slavík was revealed. The students and Professor Slavík were tried at the State Court in 1951. After the prosecutor's appeal, Professor Slavík was sentenced to seven years in prison. He spent those

seven years mainly in the uranium mines in Jáchymov. When he returned, he remained in contact with the students and they appreciated his friendship.

An unforgettable experience of those three days spent at the State Court, which were full of phantasmagoria and exhibitions of power, was when they were hugged by their teacher when they were all locked in a cell together, along with murderers and other violent criminals. There they called him – for the first and last time – Jaroslav. Professor Jaroslav Slavík was again amongst his students.

The Pavel Eisner Prize for Czech

Pavel Eisner (1889–1958) was a linguist, one of the most important Czech translators and the author of many studies about the Czech language. He came from a German-speaking Jewish family who lived in Prague. He

loved the Czech language and chose it as the language he spoke and in which he wrote his works. He translated from twelve languages, mainly German, edited for the German newspaper, Prager Presse, and contributed to a number of Czech cultural magazines. He was a member of the Prague Linguistic Circle and a great promoter of the Czech language. Notable works include an essay on the power and beauty of Czech *Bohyně česká*, as well as the books *Chrám i tvrz* and *Čeština poklepem a poslechem*, which are im-

portant linguistic works on the Czech language. The prize in his name is awarded to students whose mother tongue is not Czech and who excel in the Czech language or who promote Czech culture.

The Karel Čapek Prize for Czech

Josef and Karel Čapek were not only brothers, but also very close friends who entered the world of literature together, collaborating on their first books, before eventually finding their own literary path. It

was Karel Čapek who first used the word ROBOT - which was originally Josef's invention - in his play R.U.R. Already as a child, Karel was asking many questions, always wanting to seek the truth and to put right what did not work. He was an excellent observer and had a remarkable knowledge of people, about their lives, their weaknesses and their virtues. While Karel explored the visible world Josef, on the other hand, explored more the inner, invisible world. Both of them stood up against Na-

zism and Josef died in the Belsen concentration camp. They both spoke out when human and moral values in society were threatened. The prize is awarded to students in the Upper School.

The Sebastian Barker Prize for English

Sebastian Barker (1946–2014) was a distinguished lyric poet as well as an early friend and supporter of the English College. He was committed to the idea that the study

of language and literature should be central to the liberal education planned for the English College in Prague. He championed the role of poets and poetry in contemporary society, and was Chairman of the Poetry Society from 1988 to 1992. He produced a fine body of poetry himself, which culminated in his last volume, *The Land of Gold*, which many readers consider his best work. He was a creative editor of the London Magazine from 2002 to 2008, served for many years on the executive committee of

PEN, and he was also a Fellow of the Royal Society of Literature. The prize is awarded to students in the Lower School.

The Ronald Rankin Prize for Mathematics

This prize is awarded for achievement in Mathematics and is donated by Mr David Rankin in memory of his father who lived in Liverpool from 1905 to 1974. He was an early supporter of the English Col-

lege Foundation. Mr. Rankin writes: "My father... ran a food import business for a good part of his life. He had an analytical mind but his talent for analysis was not passed through the genes to me. Indeed, he had to pay for extra tuition to ensure that I passed my Maths exam when I was sixteen years of age! So, in 1996, I thought that I would try to encourage some students in the College in the same way that my father had helped me and, with a certain sense of irony,

chose Mathematics!" The prize is awarded to students in the Upper School.

The Jiří Hovorka Prize for History

Jiří Hovorka was a student of the Prague English Grammar School (PEGS) before it was closed by the communist regime, interrupting his studies. He was arrested by the communist police for his participation in resistance activities and imprisoned for 15

months. Prevented from studying, he spent all his life as a manual worker but was self-taught, became knowledgeable in politics, history, literature, space flights and the English, Polish and German languages. English literature and culture were his lifelong hobbies. When the English College was to be re-established after the fall of communism, Mr Hovorka provided valuable assistance to the founders and to the first Headmaster, Hubert Ward. His early life under the Nazis and then the communists strengthened his belief in democracy. He was firm in his principles and moral attitudes, generous, kind and modest. As Mr Hovorka's person-

ality was formed by the adverse history of this country, it is fitting that our prize for History should bear his name. It is awarded to students in the Upper School.

The Lightfoot Prize for English

Bob Lightfoot was an early supporter of the English College Foundation. He worked in London as a Senior Partner in a firm of Chartered Patent Attorneys. The prize is awarded to students in the Upper School.

The Jan Barta Prize

This prize is named after Jan Barta, one of

the early graduates of ECF, now a successful internet entrepreneur who generously funds six scholarships. It is awarded to students

who use their special talents in unconventional ways but whose endeavours suggest leadership potential and success.

The Governors' Prize for

Academic Achievement (Year 6)

This prize is given to those students in Year 6 whose academic achievements and endeavours are excellent across a whole range of subjects. They set for themselves and their

peers a clear standard for academic rigour and discipline.

Chairman of Governors' Prize for Academic Achievement

(Year 6)

This prize is given to one student in Year 6 whose academic achievements are outstanding and who excels in many areas. The win-

ner's name will be engraved on the stand that supports an Armada silver dish, generously donated to the College in 2011 by the late Nicholas Morris, ECF Director (1998-

2012) and ECP Governor (2004-2012).

Headmaster's Prize for Services to the School

This prize is awarded to the student who has done most for the school community over the year.

awards each year for academic and pastoral work undertaken by students at the College.

The Lord Holme Prize for

ernors of the English College. Any member of the school community can nominate a student who has worked hard for the school

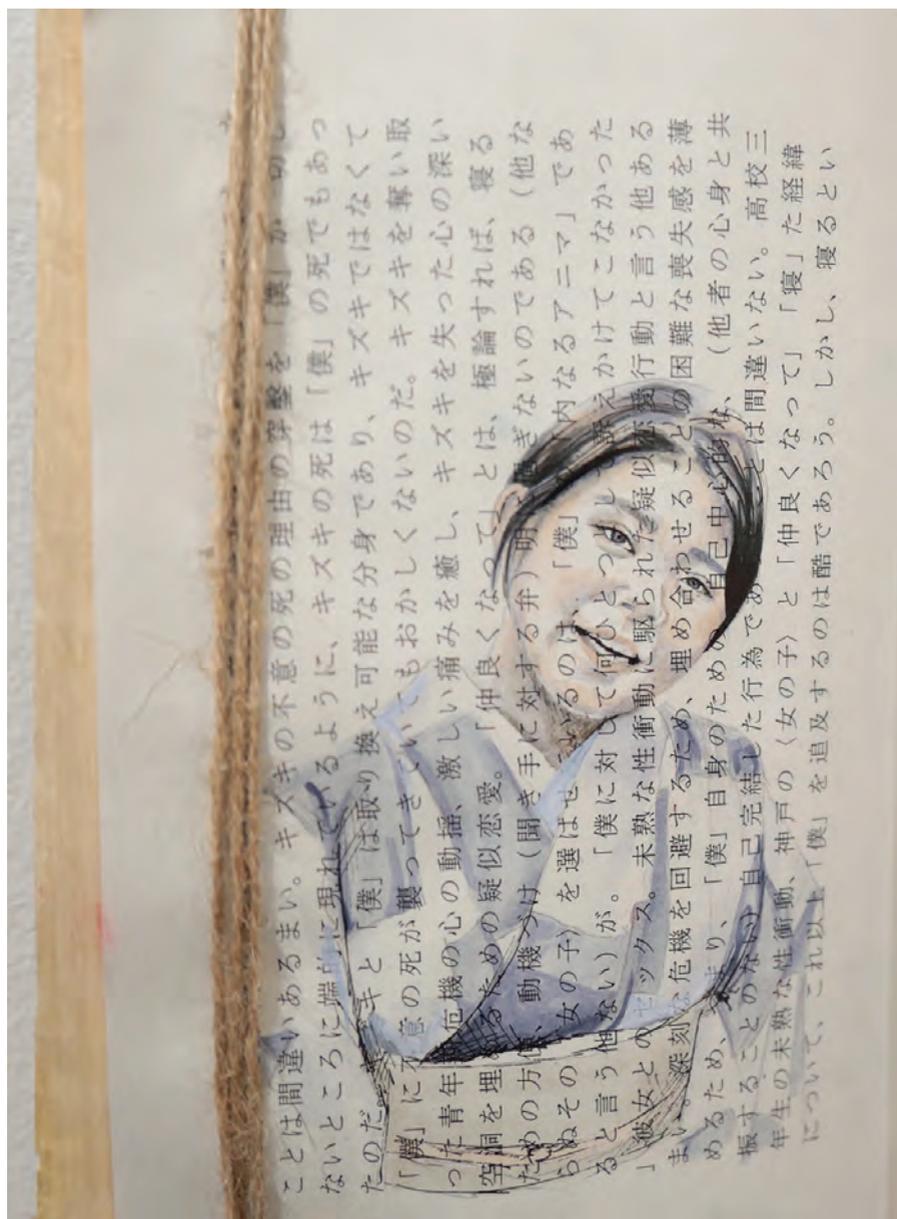
COBIS Awards

The English College is an Accredited Member of the Council for British International Schools (COBIS). COBIS supports two

Service to the Community

The Lord Holme Prize is awarded in memory of the Founding Chairman of the Gov-

community or who has helped people in need. Teachers then vote for the winner of the overall award.



“Eri” detail

Thu Hang Tran

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The English College in Prague Network (ECPN)

All our graduates are now members of the English College in Prague Network. The ECPN is an association for the wider ECP community, providing a way for everyone who has been part of the ECP family over nearly twenty five years to keep in touch, maintaining a link between the College, its alumni, their parents, former members of staff and Governors. We hope that by broadening and strengthening these links, we will in turn strengthen the ECP so it can continue to fulfil and expand its mission of educating the next generation of young people in Prague.

And as you, the Class of 2018, progress through university and your chosen careers, the ECPN will be there to help put you in

touch with others who are in the same profession, to offer advice and encouragement, so that in another twenty five years' time, there will be successful ECP graduates in senior positions in all areas of Czech life, helping to make the country a better, more equitable and prosperous place.

As you will know from your own experience, graduates regularly visit the College to advise current students, sharing their experience and offering practical advice, helping to guide the next ECP generation as they prepare to make important decisions about universities and careers. As one of them said after his visit: "Not only is it helping my old school, it is helping my country." So whenever you feel homesick for the ECP, you are

very welcome to come back to Vysočany to visit us and to share your story with those who are following in your footsteps.

The ECPN organises regular events, including the annual New Year party, and circulates the ECP Newsletter, so please update your details with us so that you

are kept informed of the latest news and events. The ECPN secretariat is based in the College and its activities are co-ordinated by Gina Hearn, Director of External Relations –
gina.hearn@englishcollege.cz

Gaudeamus Igitur

LATIN

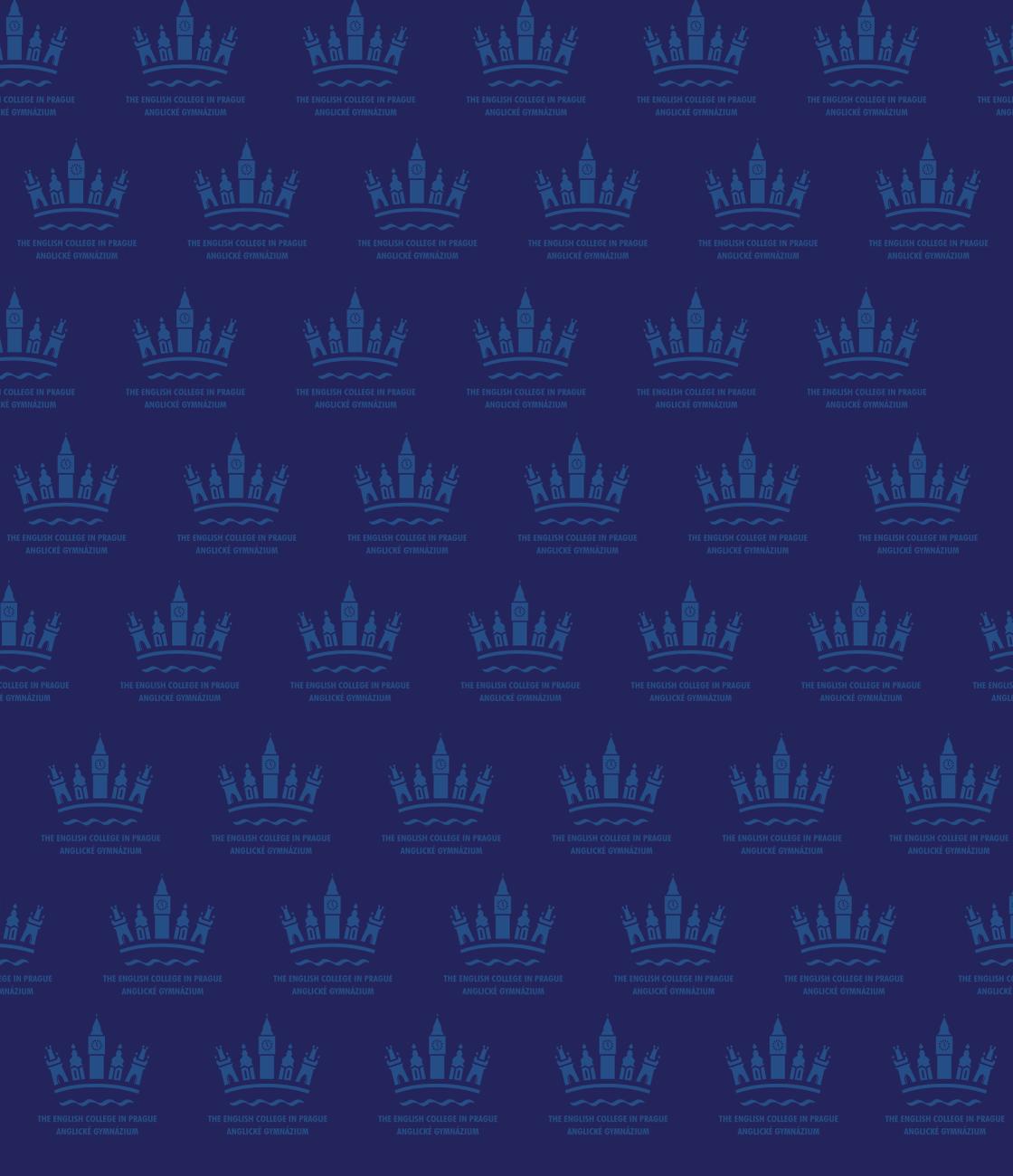
*Gaudeamus igitur
Iuvenes dum sumus.
Post iucundam iuventutem
Post molestam senectutem
Nos habebit humus.*

*Vivat academia!
Vivant professores!
Vivat membrum quodlibet;
Vivant membra quaelibet;
Semper sint in flore.*

ENGLISH

*Let us rejoice, therefore,
While we are young.
After a pleasant youth
After a troubling old age
The earth will have us.*

*Long live the academy!
Long live the professors!
Long live each student;
Long live the whole fraternity;
For ever may they flourish!*



THE ENGLISH COLLEGE IN PRAGUE - ANGLICKÉ GYMNAZIUM, O.P.S.
SOKOLOVSKÁ 320, 190 00 PRAHA 9 - VYSOČANY
CZECH REPUBLIC

