

WORLD SCHOOL FORUM

Where We Stand As One

2011

Activities of the Forum

ITC Enrico Tosi has had another chance to show how much hospitality is valued by hosting the 14th edition of the World School Forum this year. This way it has provided concrete support and assistance to its sister school Kanto International Senior High School after Japan experienced one of the worst earthquakes in its recorded history. An earthquake that changed the face of history for so many as well as the location of the 2011 World School Forum.



The 2011 WSF opening ceremony took place on Friday October, 14th: 21 teams made up of three students and a teacher or Head teacher from all over the world gathered at the Garda Village Resort in Sirmione and will take part in a long series of events, visits, seminars and workshops focused on this edition's significant theme: "Environment: rebuilding from disasters". Moreover the experience will certainly give the students the once-in-a-lifetime opportunity of approaching a wide range of completely different cultures and of creating an enriching network of friendships. The First Day opening session of the WSF featured the welcome and introduction addresses by Nadia Cattaneo, the headmistress of ITC Enrico Tosi, Mr Daryoosh Matsudaira, director of WSF and Ms Evelyn Smith, Head mistress of the Lincoln Memorial University.

Then followed two highly relevant key-note speeches by Dr. Bruna De Marchi, Sociologist and Disaster response expert, and Dr. Donata Lodi, Director of the International Relations Unicef-Italy, on two basic matters: "Can we learn from disasters?" and "What are the psychological issues in children involved in crisis?".

In the afternoon, the participants met Vincenzo Lotito commander of Vigili del Fuoco, the Department of Fire Service, Angelo Gorla, director of Protezione Civile and Corinne Francese, department head of the National Disaster Response Team. They reported how the Division from the Varese Province responded to the earthquake in Abruzzo in 2009.

On Friday evening the delegations from Japan, Turkey, Romania, France and Russia



made their country presentations. The remaining delegations took their turns on Saturday, Oct 15. Tomorrow morning, Oct 16, the whole group is to leave Sirmione on their way to Venice, Rome and L'Aquila, where a first-hand visit to the "Red Zone" is scheduled. A special permit was issued for them to see the forbidden area, which was devastated by the 6.3 magnitude earthquake on April 6, 2009.

Interviews

Yuko Kei Natsuki
Student, Kanto International School,
Tokyo, Japan.

Q.: What do you expect from this experience?

A.: I had an experience in New Zealand. I had a little glimpse of a global view, but now I've the opportunity to interact with so many



foreigners, so I think this experience will change my outlook.. I'll have more friends all

around the world and I find it very cool. I think an opportunity like this hardly ever happens.

Q.: Have you got any fears about this experience? Do you think you will have problems in dealing with other cultures?

A.: No, I don't think so.. I'm very crazy in good ways. I don't think I'll have any problems with other cultures, because I'm trying to observe the others, their attitude and the way they act to feel and to make them feel more comfortable. Moreover, I can speak English, so it isn't so hard to make friends and to get to know the others.

Daryoosh Matsudaira
World School Director, Tokyo, Japan



Q.: We are really happy to help Japan and we're glad to host the World School Forum this year. Do you think that

it is a good thing that Italy is helping Japan in this way?

There are no words that can explain our appreciation about it, there are no words. We're glad to be here.

Q.: Do you think that debates will be helpful for the students to be more conscious about this event and to be more environmentally friendly?

I think it's a little bit too early to evaluate the effect we will have precisely, but I'm sure, I'm absolutely sure that we will have a positive effect. If I weren't sure, your school, your teachers and I would not invest all of our time and energy in it. I'm sure that we'll have a lot of positive results, but how good these results are going to be, it depends on you guys! Maybe one day we'll see each other again and we'll know the answer.

Patrizia Fanzone
Teacher, Trafalgar school, Montreal,
Canada

Q.: How you think this experience will be useful for your students?



A.: I think that it will be a very useful and amusing experience for them, because first of all they will get to know many different people and cultures; secondly, it will open their eyes on things that they would not have thought about.

Q.: What kind of attitude your students are having concerning this event?

A.: They seem to be very curious about it. They expect to become bigger with heart and feelings, hoping that this can be useful for their goals and future; they want to come back home changed. They have a lot of very high expectations.

Notable seismologists

John Francis Cassidy (Canada)



John Francis Cassidy (born 1959) is a Canadian seismologist and a Professor of the University of Victoria. Cassidy has participated in mapping the structure

of the Earth using seismic waves, earthquake hazard research, working with engineers and emergency response organizations and public outreach activities, including the media, educators and the public.

Alexis Perrey (France)



Alexis Perrey (1807-1882) was a historical French seismologist and compiler of earthquake catalogs. He studied earthquakes for all his life, in the XIX century, so he is considered a pioneer

in this area, having published a note on Algerian earthquakes as early as 1848.

Sekiya Seikei (Japan)



Sekiya Seikei (28 January 1855 - 8 January 1896), otherways called Sekiya Kiyokage, was a Japanese geologist, one of

the first seismologists, influential in establishing the study of seismology in Japan and known for his model showing the motion of an earth-particle during an earthquake.

Keith Edward Bullen (New Zealand)



Keith Edward Bullen (1906-1976) was a New Zealand-born mathematician and geophysicist. He is noted for his seismological

interpretation of the deep structure of the Earth's mantle and core. In Australian geophysics too he played a significant role, serving for five years as chairman of the Australian National Committee for the International Geophysical Year.

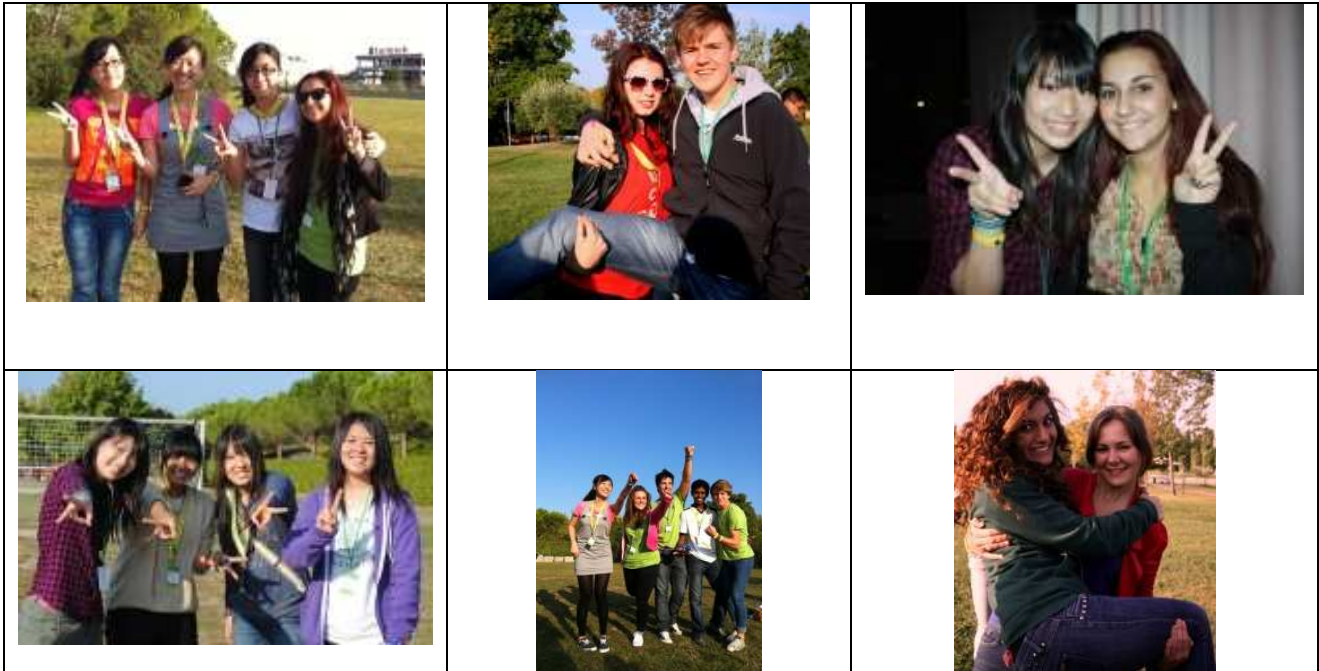
Boris Borisovich Galitzine (Russia)



Prince Boris Borisovich Galitzine (St. Petersburg, February 18, 1862-Petrograd, May 4, 1916) was a prominent Russian physicist who invented the first electromagnetic

seismograph in 1906. He was one of the founders of modern Seismology. In 1911 he was chosen to be the president of the International Seismology Association.

Funny situations



Time for a laugh!

| Romania | Australia | Italy | England | India |
|---|--|--|---|--|
| How do you call a woman who always knows where her husband is? Widow | How do you call a man with a beautiful body but not too cute? A prawn, because you like the body but you throw the head away! | Mom: "David, where is your Maths book?" David: "I gave it to the doctor: it had too many problems!" | A: "Doctor, doctor I have a problem: I feel like a pair of curtains!" B: "So, pull yourself together!" | You know why Sardar never has free time? Because he's always looking for angles in round rooms! |

Credits

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