

# The Krumbach Times

Fine Student Journalism from the Austrian Hogwarts

## Welcome to the School Year 23/24!



Every start of the academic year is a constellation of beginnings.

New students, new meetings, new friendships, new subjects, new readings, new essays, new experiences, new trips, new challenges, new achievements and new responsibilities. A very new school newspaper, too.

This year, in particular, feels very special, as our castle-school is firmly settling as a principled, proactive, and knowledge-oriented institution, a role it has always meant to play but had needed time to fully grow into.

We are proud of how much SKIS has developed and achieved over our 3 years of existence and enter the new year with confidence, gratitude and faith, in our students, in our values, and in our education.

## A Castle or "le Château"?

by Anne Princesse, Grade 12

I would like to raise your attention to the fact that we live in a historical place full of stories and wonders.

Who would have believed that these walls we see everyday have withered the challenges of a real war, prevailed against all the Trebuchets hit by the Hungarian forces, and kept the surroundings sheltered and safe. Isn't it a wonder to live in a castle of such reputation – and courage!

Take a minute to reflect on such an opportunity and let's keep up with our castle's warrior past by never giving up and keeping our moral and academic standards high, just like the castle walls are.



The word "château", in France, during the 13th and 14th centuries, defined a structure arranged for defence rather than residence.

In this very fashion, Schloss Krumbach was built in the 13th century as a fortress, to hold off the Hungarian invasions of 1246-1260 and got severely damaged throughout its noble service. Even though our castle has been changed to be a residence palace,



## A Message from the Head of School



Dear Students!

I congratulate you on the new school year! As always we have a lot of plans and ideas, which we really want to implement together with you.

We want you to be friends, to learn and to enjoy every day at the school. We want for this year to be special, interesting and unforgettable for you!

Warmest Regards,  
Dr. Oksana Volozhanina

## Introducing The Krumbach Times: Meet our Writers!

We are delighted to announce an official launch of Schloss Krumbach International School's first ever yet soon legendary student-run newspaper on campus, the Krumbach Times!

The purpose of the newspaper is to keep the school community up-to-date on the castle news and give an insight into many exciting projects, activities, trips, and events, that take place at SKIS on a monthly basis, and certainly deserve the spotlight.

We pride ourselves with providing fine journalism and independent reporting from the very heart of our Austrian Hogwarts, the beautiful Krumbach Castle, where we are headquartered.

Our young and talented team includes such well-known writers as:

Aleksandra, Reporter and Feature Writer  
Grygorii, Reporter and Opinion Piece Writer  
Anne Princesse, Reporter, Feature Writer, and Opinion Piece Writer  
Saghar, Survey Expert

We hope you enjoy the read and welcome contributions from the students and staff alike!

Respectfully,  
The Editorial Team





# The Name Sounding Through the Ages: The Conquests and Deeds of Alexander the Great

by Aleksandra, Grade 10



Alexander III the Great of Macedon began his rule as the king of Macedon. He ended it as the single ruler of all the world known to Greeks at the time. His empire stretched from the Adriatic Sea and to the Persian Gulf, from Balkans and up until Hindu Kush, from Caucasus to Sarawat Mountains.

## First Laurels

At the age of sixteen Alexander won his first battle. He defeated Athens and Thebes in the battle of Chaeronea, and even though he had not commanded the full army his military genius had started to show already at the time. When he was twenty years old, Alexander's father, Philip III, was assassinated, and therefore he succeeded as his heir. Alexander's rule lasted from 336–323 BC, and was full of great conquest and achievements in many senses, especially military and cultural.

## Alexandros Argeádai

After consolidating his power in Greek regions, Alexander could finally face and begin the campaign of his dreams. For the rest of his life, he was occupied with the conquest of Asia, which at that time mostly belonged to the Achaemenid Empire.

## The Empire's Sunset

In July 325 BC, Alexander stopped his expansion and decided to return his army in order to prepare for the new expedition. Leaving India, Alexander was the first person to ever lead an army through the Gedrosian desert (nowadays Baluchistan). After the campaign, however, Alexander's physical strength seemed to have reached its limit. Soon after the death of his closest friend and skilled general Hephæstion, Alexander fell ill. He could not fight and ride his horse and soon enough he could not even leave his bed and speak to people who came to him. With every passing day, he became weaker and weaker and eventually died in the year 323 BC at the age of 32.



## Son of Zeus

Many legends and sayings originate and focus around the figure of Alexander the Great. His deeds were legendary and are reflected in many cultures. Greeks often believed he was born from Zeus himself, and Egyptians called him the new pharaoh and the "Son of Ra & Beloved of Amun". His conquests are not the only thing present in people's memory.

The many Alexandrias he built remain standing even nowadays as monuments of antiquity and greatness, ensuring the immortality of a human who held the name that did and always will sound through the ages. Forever great.



## **Ice Cream Trip Alert: SKIS Way to Kickstart the School Year Sweetly**

On Friday, September 25th, our students spent their lunch break in style, at Eis Greissler Manufaktur, renowned for its homemade ice cream, made with love and some finest local ingredients.

From classic flavors to unique and exciting combinations, Eis Greissler has it all!

But you know what makes it even more special? Going for ice cream at Eis Greissler Manufaktur has become a cherished tradition for us during the first week of school!

It is a great opportunity to sweeten up the formalities of the beginning school year, especially for the new students and to lay down a firm ice-flavoured foundation for the fledgling friendships.

We hope the new academic year goes as smooth as the ice cream we all enjoyed.



# Learning Art Techniques at the Heart of Vienna

Art is a way of knowing the world, through the lenses of individual emotion, talent, and senses. Practicing art is an important part of individual growth and development, especially at a young age – this is how our students foster and externalize their creative potential and artistic talents.

Yet, practicing art without having any knowledge of it is like going for a walk when it is pitch dark outside. It is an experience but a purposeless and directionless one at that. This is why the new Art Workshop series, introduced by SKIS this year, first exposes students to the historical and visual framework of different techniques and art forms at a cultural context of a museum and only then asks them to replicate what they have learnt on their own.



The first trip of the series was to the Schloss Belvedere Museum where Grade 10 explored the technique of assemblage, looking at the museum's collection, and then created their own artworks. Assemblage, a hybrid art form, which emerged in the 20th century and was pioneered by the artists such as Marcel Duchamp and Jean Dubuffet, experimented with the use of everyday objects to reinvent them as elements of the collage, creating three-dimensional, mixed-media assemblages. It was often a critique of the conventional art and commercial consumerist culture. Grade 10 did a great job creating their own projects – and enjoyed the beautiful museum, which used to be a palace before.



Grade 7, 8, and 9 then visited the Albertina Museum in Vienna, in particular, Monet bis Picasso exhibition which presents an overview of the most interesting chapters of 130 years of art history, from the museum's Batliner Collection. Students had an informative lecture about the history and creation of the collection, visited the most important paintings, and then took part in a creative process of recreating the styles they saw in their own works.



Even IB-busy Grade 12s managed a quick getaway from the library to the Kunsthistorisches Museum, one of Europe's most prominent art history museums with a rich collection which features legendary masters of the brush such as Bruegel, Raphael, van Eyck, Titian, Rubens, and many others. They tested their artistic skills trying to channel emotion through painting.

This is SKIS efficiency in action: combining an art class with a TOK objective (learning art with emotion as a way of knowing).



Throughout these art trips, our students had a chance to approach and cherish the artistic heritage of beautiful Vienna.

They also explored their creative talents and ideas in continuity and contribution to the great body of knowledge that existed before. In other words, they engaged in a conscious creativity, based on the history, field development and aesthetic and quality standards, rather than merely emptying their consciousness into the world, as the fashion dictates us.

This is what we call a learning experience and a valuable workshop, in arts and beyond.



# Board Games: Old or Gold?

by Grygorii, G10

The first ever board game was found in Egypt around 3000 years before the common era, and since then board games have taken a place in the people's hearts. Even though board games are so old, this doesn't make them less interesting with time. People all over the world are coming up with new games, their versions, variations and even more people are playing these games. However, in the past few years the interest in board games fell with the rising popularity of computer games.



Board games are one of the best ways of spending leisure time, and this is so for a few reasons.

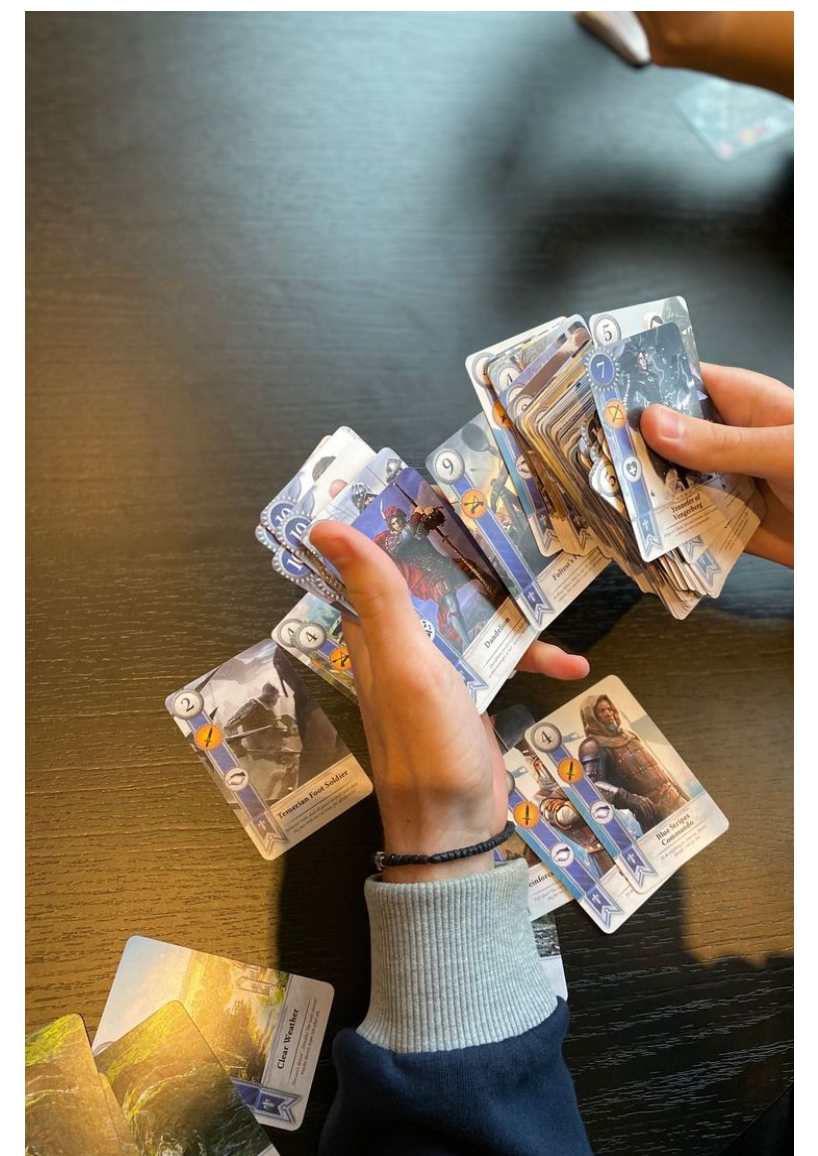
Firstly, they are extremely varied. It has never been a case that a person wouldn't find a board game exactly for himself / herself and if they did not find one, they didn't search well enough. There is any thematic based board game, starting with adventure games and ending with the mathematical monopoly.

Secondly, they are not only entertaining but also educational.



Unfortunately, nowadays board games have started to lose popularity. Mostly it happened due to the increased popularity of computer games. It is much easier for a person to go online, buy a game, download it and play, then to go to a shop, buy a board game, find friends to play with (sometimes it is the hardest part) and play. People's attention span also changed drastically within the past 100 years. It lowered and it is hard to concentrate for a long period of time on one thing and play.

At SKIS, however, we are big fans of board games. Every weekend there is a game board club for the students will to spend their leisure with interest, fun and communication with their friends.



## What Our School Principal Says

Dear students, as we start this new school year, let us remember that the foundation of our success lies in four pillars: studying, knowledge, hard work, and respect for each other. Together, let's cultivate an environment where focus on studying is a shared commitment, and where the pursuit of wisdom and understanding is our collective goal. Best Wishes, Frau. Teresa Schnabl





# Is Perseverance Worth It?

## Climbing and IB exams.

by Anne Princesse, Grade 12

On the 2nd September 2023, we went to the adventure park Hamari. The experience was an exciting yet tough one. However, no one would ever think that the climbing up the obstacles would be similar to what each IB student faces in their school journey.

International Baccalaureate is a program of 2 years when a student studies 6 subjects of his choice and explores them, gaining skills and dispositions needed for taking responsible action for the future.



In IB, students have to be determined and ready to face any challenge. This was similar in the adventure park, we were all determined to take the most challenging routes but none of us knew exactly what awaits us.

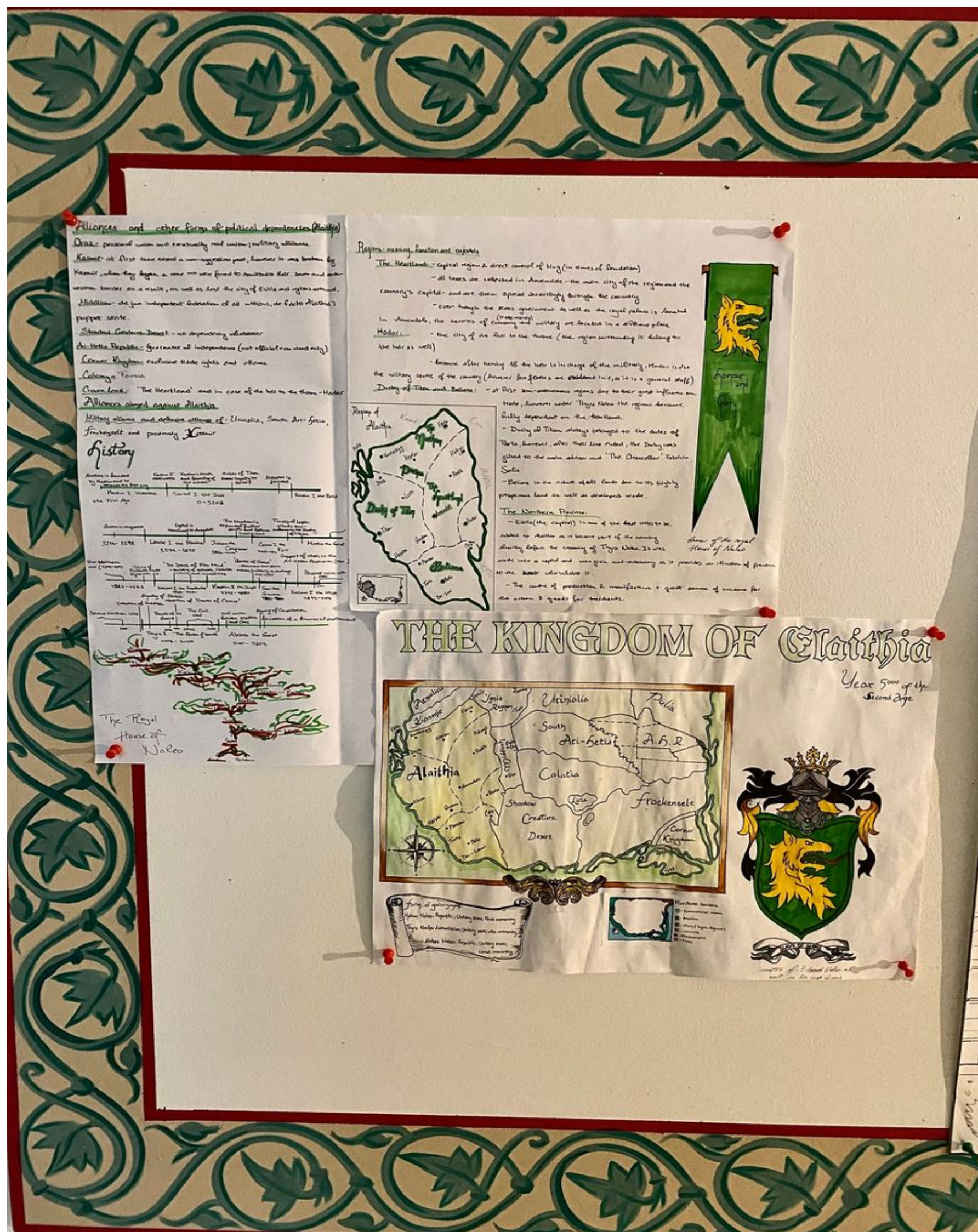
There were times when we wanted to give up and leave it but we kept on going until the end. Even if some of us did not reach the end, it shows that you can fail but each failure teaches you a lesson because you learn where you made a mistake so that next time you correct it. We also had to be patient, calm and resilient.

These are skills that make an IB student and the one that sum it all is Perseverance.

Perseverance is the Key!



# The Best Student Project of the Month



As a project for a geography class, students had a creative task of coming up with an imaginary country.

The task was thought-through and comprehensive – to not just think of the name of the country, but also to describe its political system, from state structure to geopolitical dependencies, its history and elites, as well as all the aspects of physical and political geography.

Aleksandra, from Grade 10, has absolutely nailed the task – her project has been selected as the project of the month by the Krumbach Times project selection commission.

Work hard on your homework to be featured in the next issue!

## Solve the Riddle!

**"What is so fragile, that saying its name breaks it?"**

Tell your answer options to Ms. Toma – the winner is entitled to some sort of a chocolate award!

### COMING SOON

Join the Board Games Club! We have come across a large variety of board games, stored and unused, which is such a waste of resources, thinks Grisha, Grade 10. He is about to start the Board Games Club from October on and is looking for volunteers to join. Do not miss your chance to become the founding member!

Krumbach Times is looking for reporters! Enjoying our first issue on campus? Lucky you – we are looking to expand our team, in the field of reporting and interviewing. Send an email to Ms. Toma to register your interest – become the finest student journalist on campus!



# Remembering the SKIS Summer Ball

Last June we held our first ever Schloss Krumbach Summer Ball, a new exciting school tradition that would take place on an annual basis from now on.

The dazzling event was to gather our community - students, staff, parents, distinguished guests - all together in a festive spirit, paying homage to one of Austria's most iconic and historical activities. We strongly believe that one can hardly find a more beautiful and memorable way to end the school year than attending a real-life ball!

Within the framework of our signature high-quality approach, we worked hard to create a truly grand event, with an immaculate dress code, but also a sense of belonging. The idea of nurturing student responsibility, intelligence and manners through cultural events and collective work for something of true value to the community is at the core of our institutional mission. SKIS Summer Ball was - and will be - definitely a well-fitting match to it!

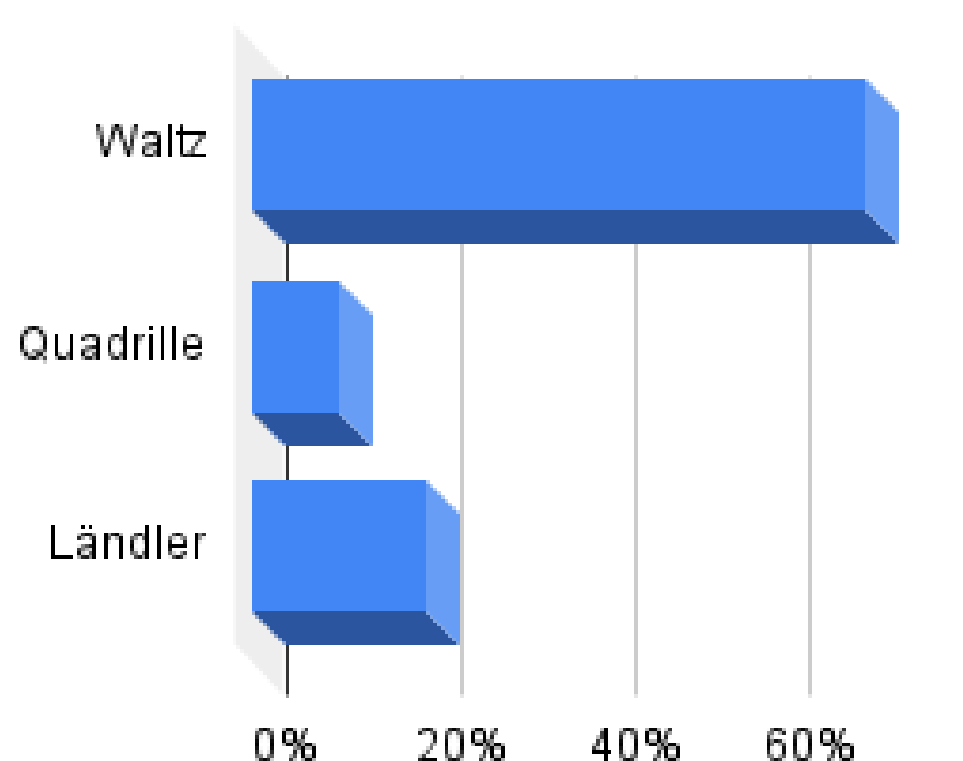


Of course, ball dancing was a large part - our students and also staff members learnt to perform legendary dances such as polka, waltz, french quadrille, Spanish waltz, polonaise, ländler, and did so with grace and confidence, whirling around the school's grand restaurant area to the sounds of invited orchestra.

Such a wonderful event it was! We cannot wait for the new SKIS Ball to take place - and rehearse for the multilingual Christmas play, the Sounds of Music, in the meanwhile.



The Krumbach Times is a student-run newspaper headquartered at a 13th century Austrian Castle.



## Student Poll: What is Your Favourite Ball Dance?

by Saghar, G10