

LAUDER JAVNE JEWISH COMMUNITY SCHOOL,  
KINDERGARTEN AND MUSIC SCHOOL  
BUDAPEST, HUNGARY

2016-2017

March

**REFORMING EDUCATION? - STARTUPS FOR THE FUTURE**

Our school took part in the Budapest Startup Safari, as our school wishes to innovate, and as a community educator, even parents can take part in the reforming of education.

The Lauder School wishes to imbue its students with knowledge that keeps pace with the new challenges and technological improvements. This is why we came up with Startup Monday, and also why we took part in a roundtable discussion at the Startup Safari, where we were able to debate how the logic of the business world can appear in our educational programs. It was important to discuss these questions to discern how the skills and knowledge conveyed by the school can help pave the way for a successful career in the future.

- Can we change the fact that the knowledge acquired at school prepares students less and less for the future?
- What can we do as a school and as an entrepreneur to make education more up to date, more fitting to the requirements of the job market?

These were some of the questions discussed within the workshop entitled: “Maturity or matura: how can startup philosophy find its place in public education?” From Lauder, secondary school principal Péter Varga took part at the roundtable discussion.

The conversation has fortified our conviction that the new programs of the secondary school, the ComEdu community education and the “Startup Monday” initiative are possible solutions to ensure that our final year students are better prepared and more self-confident upon leaving the school.

The head principal of the Lauder School, Gábor Horányi wrote in one of his Facebook posts: “As we all know, that this holds even more true for Hungary, the education system is not able to keep up with the challenges of a quickly changing world.”



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## JEWISH OUTREACH

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### LENDVA-LENTI-ALTAVILLA-SILENTINA...

At the beginning of April, a few of our teachers along with a group of students had a chance to explore the lives of Jewish families who once lived in townships of Lendva and Lenti.

The first part of their journey took them to Lendva, as this was the site of the synagogue that the Jewish families of Lenti also visited. They were greeted at the synagogue by historian Dejan Suc, who told them about the main points of his research. Afterwards, with the help of radio journalist Tünde Cseresznyés, they visited the Mura Region Hungarian Radio and Television center. Tünde has also made interviews with survivors in recent years. Our students were also able to sneak a peek behind the scenes of Slovenian radio and television productions.

They also stormed the castle at Lendva, where museologist Bea Lázár greeted them, having performed important research regarding the Jewish history of Lendva. The last stop of the day was the Jewish cemetery at Lendva, in beautiful surroundings, where they sketched and took photos.

The next day, the trip continued in Lenti. They took a lot of photos in the Jewish cemetery, and then interviewed an lady name Piroska, who told them a lot of stories about her Jewish neighbors in Lenti. She even told the story of how items that used to belong to Jewish families got to Cfat.

The group also took a walk to the Holocaust memorial, and visited a small Jewish cemetery in Dobri.



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## JEWISH OUTREACH

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### HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL DAY 2017

We held our annual Holocaust Memorial Day on the 24th of April. This day is also the official day of remembrance for the Holocaust in Israel, Jom HáSoá, since 1950.

The assembly hall was set up in remembrance, and students, teachers and colleagues came and went throughout the day, lighting candles and spending a few moments in silence. Teachers also organized events for the day, Gábor Balázs's "Holocaust and cognitive discomfort: The corpse of hope in contemporary Hungarian literature" and András Zima's "Our lost Jewish worlds" presentations and discussions awaited those interested.

Students watched film interviews with Holocaust survivors, got to know the story of Gitta Mállász and visited the memorial statue in our school's garden. They also had a chance to listen to interesting presentations like "Where was God in Auschwitz?" or Tamás Csapody's stories about the forced laborers of Bor. Some had a chance to discover how Jews lived as part of communities before the war, and others got to discuss the difficulties of coming home and restarting. On this day, the library had special reading corners set up, where students got to know the wealth of literature on the subject.



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### INTERACTIVE SEDER IN SECOND GRADE

The Hebrew workgroup organized a Seder celebration for the students of the second grade, after they walked the path leading out of Egyptian slavery.

The second graders arrived in the kingdom of the evil pharaoh, where they had to work hard under the stern eyes of slave drivers, pulling carts, rolling stones and building a pyramid. They then shook off their chains, and Moses lead them out of Egypt, crossing the Red Sea, where the pharaoh was swallowed up by the raging sea. The hungry people were fed with manna (popcorn), and then they rested and feasted according to the traditions of Seder.

It was an exciting afternoon!



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## MITZVAH

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### IN OUR HEART OF HEARTS, WE ARE ALL THE SAME! - MITZVAH DAY IN FOURTH GRADE

Students with special needs from the Prizma Elementary School were our guests. Playing, singing and dancing together as well as handicrafts helped our students accept differences. With the help of parents, we had a happy, uplifting, rich and deeply educational experience.



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### THE TEACHERS AND HANDICAPPED STUDENTS OF THE CSILLAGHÁZ ELEMENTARY SCHOOL WERE THE GUESTS OF OUR THIRD GRADERS

We spent a cheerful and eventful morning together. We traversed an obstacle course and the up-down ramp with wheelchairs, learned the Boccia ball game, communicated using pictures and hand signals, and played with Mirna, the helper dog. We had a lot of fun and learned a lot from each other. We can't wait for the next visit!



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## EDUCATION

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### MAGMAKAMRA AT LAUDER

The students and musicians of the Magnakamra Workshop were the guests of our 6th grade classes on the 6th of April in the Lauder library.

The Magmakamra Art Workshop is a place for young people with special needs who are open to exploring art. They visited Lauder on occasion of the day of poetry (11th of April, and fitting to the occasion, they played a lot of adaptations of Attila József poems, as well as those of other prominent poets. They played a whole host of different instruments, and they brought a whole array with them for our students to try. In the end, as the Lauder students also grabbed some of the instruments, the scene turned into the joyful jamming together.

Faster and faster, louder and louder, and with a bigger and bigger smile, the students were stomping and raving by the end. It was an uplifting experience!



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### OUR STUDENT GUESTS FROM ZAGREB

We welcomed visitors from the Lauder Hugo Kon School in Zagreb.

Students from our sister-school in Croatia visited our capitol for one day. The highlight of their visit was our school. Almost all the students of the school, from first to eighth grade, visited us. With the help of our students and a special Pesach game, they got to know every nook and cranny of the Lauder School. After lunch, the program ended in the garden, where students stormed the playground. Next year, it's our turn to visit Zagreb!



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## SUCCESS STORIES

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### AMAZING MATH SUCCESS - BÁLINT REACHES THE TOP

The Kangaroo Math Competition saw near 170 Lauder students as entrants this year.

Bálint Dobák, with his flawless 120/120 point performance, took national first place from 4500 students. Out of such a throng of children, only he was able to flawlessly solve all 24 questions in 60 minutes. This, in and of itself, is fantastic.

His teachers are: Éva Szabó, Rita Kanizsai and Tamás Kósa.



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### ESZTER CSORDÁS RECEIVED AN ARTPHOTO SPECIAL AWARD

Eszter Csordás (12th grade Mazal) received a special award in the art photo category of the 17th National Youth Art Competition. Viktória Philip's (11th grade Zman) works were selected for the exhibition created from submitted works. The competition saw a total of 334 submissions from 20 schools.



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