

NEWSLETTER

May 2, 2025 Semester 2 Issue 30



ISTANBUL | TORONTO

Dear Kilittasi Community,

It's hard to believe, but we're already approaching the final stretch of the school year! These last few weeks are full of meaningful moments, exciting trips, special visitors, performances, reflections, and important assessments.

Each school day truly matters. Every morning, a student walks through our doors, they're stepping into opportunities to grow, connect, and celebrate their achievements.

We'd like to ask for your continued support in making sure all students are present and on time each day. Together, let's help them finish the year strong, feeling confident, proud, and ready for what comes next.

Earthquake Safety Update

As you know, we take earthquake preparedness very seriously. We're happy to share that our school buildings received an excellent report from İSTON in 2023 regarding the safety of our grounds and structures.

Following the recent 6.2 earthquake on April 23, the Ministry of Environment and Urbanisation re-inspected our buildings on April 25, and once again confirmed that no damage.

The safety of our students remains our top priority. We continue to hold regular earthquake drills so both students and staff are well-prepared.

Thank you for your continued trust and calm support: we are closely monitoring the situation and will always take all necessary measures to keep our school community safe.

Friendly & Informative:

As you know, right after our April 23rd National Children's Day celebration at school, a 6.2 magnitude earthquake occurred, and the government declared a two-day closure.

We had originally planned to celebrate International Diversity Day on April 24th. However, with the unexpected break and its close timing to the Children's Day event, the spirit of the day was somewhat lost. On top of that, the upcoming WASC inspection has added to everyone's workload, and we didn't want to place additional pressure on our PTO team.

After thoughtful discussions with the PTO, we've decided to cancel this year's Diversity Day celebration. Instead, we'll plan for a more meaningful and joyful combined celebration of both events on April 23rd, 2026.

Thank you for your understanding.



NEWSLETTER

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Math Village Trip

From April 28 to 30, selected middle and high school students traveled to Şirince for our much-anticipated Math Village trip. The experience featured engaging lessons with renowned mathematics lecturers, hands-on activities, and a cultural tour of İzmir. This trip was designed to enhance students' critical thinking skills and spark their mathematical curiosity in an inspiring setting.



Bringing French to Life – A Journey to France!

As you know, our students begin learning French as a second language starting at age four, and this journey continues all the way through to Grade 12. At Kilittaşı, students take a big step in Grade 5 when they enter a dedicated French prep class.

Each year, before the end of Grade 5, we offer a special opportunity: a trip to France with their French teachers a tradition open to all eligible students across the school. It's a chance to see how far they've come, not just in the classroom, but in real life!

This year, our Grade 5 students along with students from other classes will travel to Nice from May 4th to 10th. They'll take daily French lessons at a local language school and enjoy cultural outings around the city. It's a wonderful chance to build confidence, courage, and connection while experiencing the magic of the French Riviera.

We can't wait to hear their stories en français when they return!



Get Ready for Space Camp!

From June 11th to 13th, our middle school students will embark on an unforgettable adventure to Space Camp İzmir! This annual trip offers an exciting chance to dive into the world of space exploration through interactive activities, simulations, and fun team challenges.

We'll be sharing more details soon. Stay tuned and get ready for liftoff!

Meet Our French Intern

Our new intern, Kenan, from France has joined us for the next four weeks, supporting our French department. His presence offers students a wonderful chance to practice conversational French and learn about French culture firsthand. Bienvenue à notre école!



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Successful PEI Inspection – Thank You!

As we shared earlier, due to the current circumstances in our country, the PEI team conducted this year's school inspection online. We're happy to announce that the inspection went very smoothly and successfully!

The evaluators commended our strong academic standards, supportive learning environment, and the positive school culture we've built together.

A heartfelt thank-you to our dedicated teachers, guidance team, students, and supportive parents for making this possible. This achievement belongs to all of us!



Upcoming WASC Accreditation Visit – May 11–15

Just like our PEI inspection, this year's WASC accreditation visit will also take place online. While we look forward to welcoming the team in person next year, we're excited to share all the progress we've made.

From May 12 to 15, the WASC team will review key areas such as child protection, student wellbeing, the role of our advisory board, and how we use data to enhance learning.

We're proud of the meaningful work happening across our school community, and we're ready to show it!

MAP Growth Reports



This past month, students took their MAP Growth assessments once again. The results have been shared with parents, offering valuable insights into each student's academic progress and where they rank compared to international standards. Teachers will use this data to help shape their lesson plans, ensuring instruction is targeted to meet students' individual learning needs.

Once a Part of Us, Always a Part of Us

Some of our students now live in countries like France, the Netherlands, Canada, and the USA, but whenever they visit Turkey, they always stop by our school. It warms our hearts every time! This week, Ela came all the way from the Netherlands to see her friends and teachers. We loved having her with us. Thank you, Ela, for the visit! We hope to see you again soon.