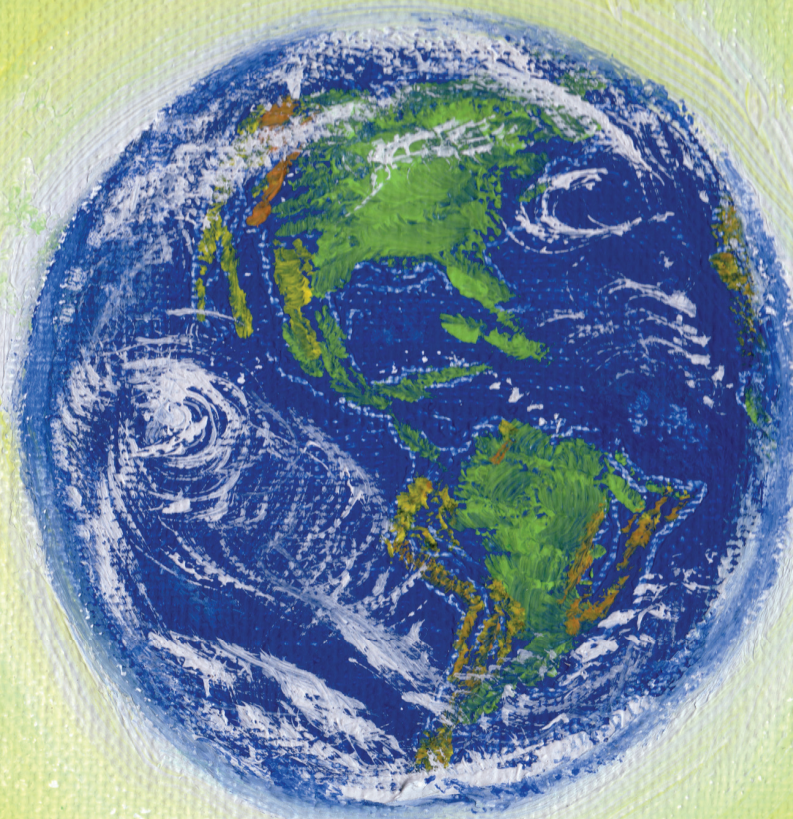


Founders' Day

Thursday

19 October 2017

at 4.00 pm



The English College in Prague - Anglické gymnázium, o.p.s.

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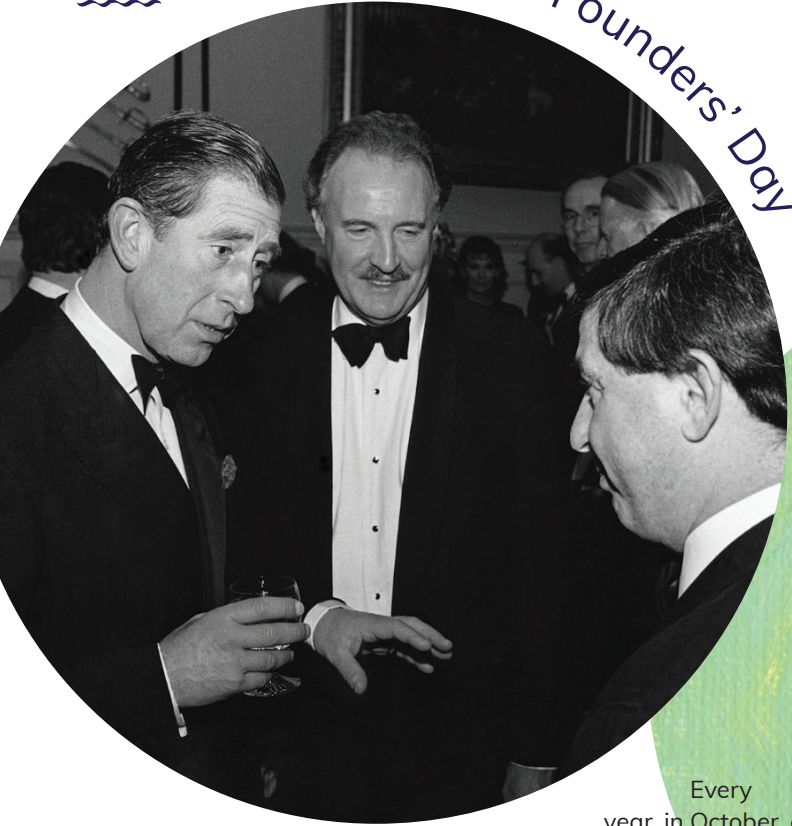


THE ENGLISH COLLEGE IN PRAGUE
ANGLICKÉ GYMNÁZIUM



ECP Founders' Day

ECP Founders' Day 2017



This year at Founders' Day, we are remembering in particular Lord Holme of Cheltenham - our first Chairman of Governors. Richard Holme was a British politician, campaigner and businessman who was very important to the school. This is how *The Times* newspaper reported the opening of the English College, on 9 September 1994.



Every year, in October, on a date roughly halfway between the birthdays of our Founder Patrons, President Václav Havel (5 October) and HRH The Prince of Wales (14 November), the English College in Prague celebrates Founders' Day.

Members of the whole school community - students, staff, parents, Governors, graduates and former staff - gather together to remember the vision and determination of the people who worked so hard to open the English College and to give children in Prague the educational opportunities still offered by the ECP today.

There are musical and drama performances and a guest speaker gives a short address about one of the people who contributed to the founding of the school.

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An English language school reopened in Prague this week after being closed for 42 years. The Prague English Grammar School was shut down by the Nazis in 1938 and again by the Communists in 1952. Renamed the English College, the new term started with 110 boys and girls ranging in age from 13 to 18. The renovation of the century-old school comes after three years of preparation by a London-based charity, headed by Lord Holme of Cheltenham, the Liberal Democrat peer. President Havel of the Czech Republic and the Prince of Wales are joint patrons.

“Years of repression have failed to break the Czech spirit or dampen the appetite for first-class education, which we are now on the brink of providing again for the young people of the Czech Republic. The school will embody the best traditions of British and European teaching,” Lord Holme said. “Within the Czech Republic there is huge demand for the English language and a yearning for the ideals that underpin our society, although often on the world stage we underestimate these attributes.””

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Founders' Day 2017

Introduction and welcome by the Chairman of Governors: **Ann Lewis CMG**

Speech by the Headmaster: **Dr Nigel Brown**

Presentation of the Talent in the Arts Awards by **Dr Nigel Brown**

Reading by **Anna Davis** Y6: A Man's A Man For A' That by Robert Burns

Alexander Grudinov Y6 (guitar): Take Five by Dave Brubeck & Paul Desmond

Guest speaker: **Dr Martyn Bond**

Anna Stančíková Y6: Impromptu Op. 142, no. 2 by Franz Schubert

Presentation of the Founders' Academic Prizes by **Lady Holme**

Terezie Květoňová Y4: Soul Within (own composition)

President of the Student Council: **Martin Vladyka** Y5

Gallileo by Bertolt Brecht: **Ondřej Svoboda** Y5

The Lord Holme Prize for the Service to the Community - A Duty to Give Back

Michal Zapletal

Agáta Nedbalová Y5 & **Andrej Hraboš** Y3: It's gotta be you by Isaiah

Closing remarks: **Dr Nigel Brown**

*Followed by a drinks reception
in the refectory*

THE PRIZE WINNERS

Founders' Academic Prizes

Daniel Moravec, Year 2

Viktorie Řeháková, Year 2

Marieta Kyselá, Year 3

Kryštof Sršeň, Year 3

Linda Novobilská, Year 4

Sabrina Seidl, Year 4

Ly Leová, Year 5

Martin Vladyka, Year 5

Nguyen Van (Robert) Nguyen, Year 6

Adéla Víšková, Year 6

Talent in The Arts Awards

ART

Sára Emma Hamplová, Year 4

Ly Leová, Year 5

DRAMA

Anna Davis, Year 6

MUSIC

Terezie Květoňová, Year 4

Alexander Grudinov, Year 6





The Lord Holme Library



The founding ECP librarian, Jane Howard, put together the then ECP Resource Centre from scratch. She began by adding 619 books in the Autumn of 1994, and added 2160 more resources the following year. Many of the

books were donated and quite a few were purchased via the Know How Fund, sponsored, in part, by the British government.

Currently, The Lord Holme Library contains 13,889 library resources (books, periodicals, A/V resources and e-books) and also houses 19,860 textbooks and other faculty resources. In addition, our cooperative programme with the National Technical University affords our students and staff access to their 73 e-resources databases as well as their entire open-access print collections.

The dedication and renaming of The Lord Holme Library took place on Friday, 8th October, 2010. The dedication programme was hosted by Mr Tommy Cookson, former ECP Governor and Chairman of the ECP Education Committee.

Lord Holme was particularly fond of the library and chaired all the Governors' meetings there. Thus, it is fitting that the library should have been named in his honour. A portrait of Lord Holme, painted by former ECP student, Ivana Růžičková, hangs on the wall near the library's main entrance.

The Lord Holme Prize for Service to the Community

Charity plays a very important role in our school life; it reflects the ethos of our school and unifies the school community.

From Year 1, students are encouraged to participate in charitable projects and the Caritas programme offers a variety of opportunities for them to become involved in helping others. But students very often also put forward their own ideas for new projects and IB students continue their charity work as part of the CAS - Creativity, Activity and Service - element of the IB Programme.

Students are recognised for their charity work in different ways, but the Lord Holme Prize is the most prestigious award. It is also unique in the way the candidates are chosen as anybody from the school community can nominate any student from the school and the winner is voted for by all members of staff.

So each year one student from the community becomes a role model for the rest of the student body in an area that Lord Holme himself considered extremely important.



The History of the English College in Prague

From a suggestion made by President Havel's press secretary at a meeting in 1990 between the President and a UK Foreign Office Minister, attended by our Chairman of Governors, Ann Lewis, then a Foreign Office official, and a conversation between former Governor, Dr Martyn Bond, and Czech businessman, Zdeněk Mládek, the idea of opening a school in Prague, based on the old Prague English Grammar School (PEGS), was born.

The English College Foundation, a UK registered charity whose original purpose was to establish our school and remains to help and support ECP and its students, particularly by arranging the ECF London Work Experience Programme each October half term, was established and President Havel and HRH The Prince of Wales agreed to be our Founder Patrons. After three years of struggling to find a suitable building and much fundraising, they had recruited the first Headmaster, Hubert Ward, and Prague 9 had offered them a lease on our current building.

So, with furniture and equipment begged from many different organisations - their names are amongst those listed on the board on the wall at the foot of the stairs on the ground floor - the English College in Prague opened its iconic blue doors to its first 110 students on 4 September 1994. The school would not only teach in English, but would use British teaching methods, which were very different from those employed in Czech schools.

