

Brillantmont International School
Prize Giving and Graduation Day, June 2010

Welcome Speech by Anne Frei, President of the School Board and Co-owner

Let me begin by addressing you, our 2010 graduates, because today is your day. Today, we are particularly proud of you and see in you the result of all our efforts. We can see the result right here, as, filled with emotion, you stand before us in your gowns. Yet, above all, the result will be seen in the future, your future. All you have learnt at Brillantmont is only worth what you make of it. We have helped you develop in several key domains:

- Most importantly, in the domain of academic knowledge and your capacity to develop it further
- Your social skills and your ability to mix easily and to find your place in varied multicultural groups
- Your self-confidence
- Your ability to set and reach objectives

If, to the first domain, that of academic knowledge, you can add one or two of the others, your professional and personal success will be assured. You have set yourselves clear goals by applying to the very best institutions to study various subjects: Hospitality management, Biological Sciences, International business, Finance, Event management, Engineering. You will be scattered across the globe since some of you will stay in Switzerland, others will return to their home country and many of you will study in Great Britain or the USA. In your future professions, do keep in touch with one another as having a network of friends is priceless.

Just as you will change so, will Brillantmont. Despite having regularly invested to improve the school's infrastructure, always with the aim of providing our students with the very best facilities, we are aware of our weaknesses. We know that sports and leisure facilities on campus are sorely lacking. Before the end of this year, construction will begin on a multi-purpose hall which will enable us to offer, right here on campus, sports and activities which currently take place elsewhere. The 40m long, 20m wide, 7m tall building will be built underneath the existing sports court. We have asked all former students and parents for their generous support to help us finance this project. I would like to offer my sincere thanks to those amongst you who have already given so generously. Please take a look at the scale model of the hall and the detailed plans, which are on display in the reception. Our architect, Mr. Eric Frei, would be delighted to discuss the project with you.

Another important change will impact the school in September 2011. Since many families would like to see all their children attend the same school and because we wish to work with students over a longer period of time, we have decided to welcome day and boarding students from age 11. We will open classes for Grades 6 and 7 (UK Years 7 and 8). Improved facilities, in particular, the new multi-purpose hall, will enable us to offer these younger students, as indeed to all the other students, a stimulating environment with more staff support and a wider range of age-adapted sports and cultural activities.

On behalf of the School Board and the Frei family, thank you for coming today to mark the success of our "Class of 2010" and the end of the school year. And to you, graduates, I wish a glowing future and a wonderful day of celebration.

Welcome Speech by Mr Philippe Pasche, Director

Firstly, on behalf of the Direction, I would like to extend my deepest thanks:

- To all the staff who have unfailingly, accomplished their tasks
- To all the parents, who have supported the decisions we have made this year
- To all those students, who have accepted to work hard and follow the rules imposed upon them

Throughout the year, I have noticed that the following terms have been used regularly in meetings:

- Education
- Teaching
- Knowledge
- Know-how
- Being
- Self-knowledge

A small « cocktail » and so, it would seem appropriate to refresh our understanding:

Education

Until recently, education signified the role that parents or their substitutes played to help their child reach adulthood. Gradually, each nation has also assumed this right. Now, the term most commonly signifies learning and the development of a person's physical, psychological and intellectual abilities.

Teaching

To teach is to transmit knowledge, know-how and values, considered to be a part of our general culture, to future generations. It is easy to confuse teaching with education. In simple terms, teaching is the transmission of knowledge with the aid of signs (for example, the alphabet or numbers).

Teaching is therefore education, but to educate is not necessarily to teach.

The fields of education

Knowledge relates to intellectual knowledge such as observation, reading, writing, mathematics, science of Man and the Environment.

Know-how relates to practical skills; mastery by practice of a craft or an activity which is artistic, domestic or intellectual. These skills are acquired through practice and rote learning.

Being relates to the biological, physical and psychological state of an individual (state of health, well-being and confidence)

Self-knowledge relates to the ability to produce actions and reactions which are adapted to our human society and environment. The concept of self-knowledge is sometimes questioned because it would imply a change in the essence and character of the individual.

All of this is very theoretical and seems complicated. It is nevertheless, the vocabulary used by all those, near and far, who play a role in a child's development.

Prix de Fidelité

The following students received the Prix de Fidelité, awarded to students who have studied at Brillantmont for at least four years.

MARC BIOSCA
FREDERIK BOSSAERTS
SAYAKA CHIAKI
JOHN FIELDEN
SINA HAASE
ADAM KURTH
ALEXANDRA POWER
ISABELLA SHAMKINA
JUNA VUTHI

Prix d'Excellence

The following students received the Prix d'Excellence, awarded to students who have been on the Honour Roll for the entire school year.

KATHERIN EICHINGER.
CEZARA SECELEAN

Academic prizes

The following students are awarded a prize in recognition of their academic achievements.

French: YAMADA Keisuke; DOPIRO Ekaterina

English: FINELLI Francesca; Adam Kurth

History: HAASE Sina

Economics: FAIRHEAD Gabrielle

Mathematics: FUJITA Ran; AGUIAR Afonso

Biology: FIELDEN John

Chemistry: BOSSAERTS Frederik

Physics: MUSIJENKO David

Italian: AMANGELDINA Assel

German: KARPOVA Marina

Spanish: FARINA Tatiana

Art: GUZHAVINA Dinara

PSHE: LEE Wei (William)

Sports: BIOSCA Marc

Graphic Design: WIDLIC Christian (for creating a new logo for the school library)

ECIS Award for International Understanding

The ECIS Award for International Understanding was awarded to **Fraser McBeth** from Scotland.

“Fraser has been at Brillantmont for 3 years and has been an exemplary day & boarding student in more ways than one. Fraser is passionate about all that he does and his enthusiasm is infectious which makes him an invaluable member of our school community.

Fraser has become a central figure to BM life and as a founding member of Habitat For Humanity Fraser has played a key role in organising events; he has proven to be an excellent role model and a person that younger students look up to.

Fraser has given of his time to organise numerous events but in particular, a whole school tennis tournament which has brought the whole school community together and has now become a yearly event.

An excellent sportsman, Fraser has represented the school on many occasions, displaying both an aptitude for sports (tennis, football, beach volleyball and badminton) as well as a sense of team spirit and comradeship.

Fraser’s friends and classmates afford him tremendous respect: a respect that stems from his thoughtful approach towards his relationships with other students and adults around the school. He has made friends from all over the world and amongst both day and boarding students. Fraser has not only contributed to the life of Brillantmont and therefore truly understood what it means to live in an International community such as ours, but he has also been an excellent ambassador for his country.

Outside of the classroom, Fraser is truly a joy. He is well-liked and respected by both the students and the teachers. At a school with students from over 40 countries, Fraser comfortably mingles with students of all nationalities, clearly enjoying learning about different cultures without being critical of their differences to his own Scottish background.

His participation in the School’s extracurricular activities is greatly valued as he is clearly passionate about the interests he pursues. As a member of the tennis and football teams, Fraser always gives his maximum effort and sets the example for his teammates to do the same. This year he has joined the School’s rock band and will entertain many with his drumming talents at the St. Nicolas party and graduation ceremony.

As a founding member of our Habitat for Humanity club, Fraser enters his third year of participation. This club fundraises throughout the year and culminates in a building project for those less fortunate in a country outside of Switzerland. Fraser constantly contributes innovative fundraising ideas, such as the school tennis tournament, and then executes these ideas with great seriousness and spirit. His commitment to the cause has been tremendous and the team leaders look forward to building by his side in Portugal in March.”

The Class of 2010

Students completing their studies in the British Programme

Afonso Aguiar from Portugal will study economics at the HEC, University of Lausanne, Switzerland.

Marc Biosca from Spain will study engineering at the EPFL, Switzerland.

Frederik Bossaerts from Belgium will study engineering at Purdue University, USA

Kathrin Eichinger from Austria will study PPE (Politics, Philosophy and Economics) at the University of York, England.

John Fielden from England will study Biological Sciences at Imperial College London, England.

Leila Goovaerts from Belgium will study French with Spanish at Oxford Brookes University, England.

Sina Haase from Germany will study Sociology and Economics at the University of Kent, England.

Aigerim Kazykhanova from Kazakhstan will study Politics and International Relations with French at the University of Kent, England.

Adam Kurth from Scotland will study Mechanical Engineering at Glasgow University, Scotland.

Fraser McBeth from Scotland will study Business Management at Manchester University, England whilst following the Siemens Commercial Academy Programme.

Valentine Mottaz from Switzerland will take a gap year before studying Marketing, Publicity, Media and Public Relations at POLYCOM, Switzerland.

Adam Newton from England will take a gap year in Australia before studying Engineering at Brunel University, England.

Alexandra Power from England will study Events Management at Canterbury Christ Church University, England.

Karina Saakyan from Russia will study International Hospitality Management at the Ecole Hôtelière de Lausanne, Switzerland.

Line Camilla Schug from Germany will study Geology at the University of Colorado at Boulder, USA.

Isabella Shamkina from Russia will study International Hospitality Management at LRG – Les Roches-Gruyère University of the Applied Sciences, Switzerland.

Zuzana Struharova from Slovakia will take a gap year before studying Politics and International Relations at Nottingham University, England.

Juna Vuthi from Albania will study Marketing at International Business School, Hungary.

Christian Widlic from Norway will study Graphic Design at Brighton College of Art and Design, England.

Students completing their studies in the American Programme

Diploma with Merit

Malcolm Glenn Adams from USA will study Finance and Accountancy at the University of Wisconsin Madison, USA.

Diploma with a Pass:

Amal Hilal Al Azri from Oman will study International Business Management at the American International University in London, England.

Alexandra Knapp from Switzerland will study Hospitality Management at Glion Hotel School, Switzerland.

Haya Maraka from USA will study Fashion Business and Merchandising at Berkley College in New York, USA.

Konstantin Mochalov from Russia will study Hospitality Management at Glion Hotel School, Switzerland.

Diploma Certificate:

Mélodie Argi from Switzerland will study at Tel Aviv University, Israel.

Sayaka Chiaki from Japan will study International Relations and Affairs back home in Japan.

Anna Maria Kistner from Germany will study Hospitality Management at Les Roches Hotel School in Bluche, Crans Montana

Graduation Speech 2010

By Fraser McBeth & Konstantin Mochalov

Fellow Graduates, today is probably the most significant moment in each of our lives, the day of our graduation. For all 26 of us today marks the end of our High School lives, and opens the door to our adult lives. Throughout the years we have spent here together, we will have many memories that stay with us forever, some good and some bad. However BM has given us an experience that we will never forget. We have learned a lot academically, but have also learned how to enjoy our teenage lives which has helped us mature into the people that we are today. We, on behalf of the graduate class, would like to give a round of applause to, our parents, the direction, our teachers and our friends for supporting us throughout this time.

This may be the last moment we are all together as a class, after today we will go off in different directions towards different destinations however we will always have our BM memories to look back on. This is a day where we should not be sad; any tears should be happy ones. We should all look back on the hard work we have put into our academics, into our sports, into being part of the BM community, and be proud to see what we have accomplished.

I would like to thank you all for being here today, as the ceremony is coming to a close, just take a minute and think back on some of the good times we've had together and those will be the best memories. Congratulations class of 2010, we finally made it!