



Children Learn Lessons from the Past at the Living Wax Museum

The Primary 5 and 6 students at the Swiss School hosted their very own biographical interactive Wax Museum, honouring influential people from the past and present.

RECREATING ROLE MODELS

Imagine you had the chance to meet one of your idols from history – a great leader, an inventor, a writer, a musician, an artist, a sports hero, an actor or the Queen herself. What would you want to know about that person? Now, imagine that you had the opportunity to assume the role of that very figure. Who would you like to be?

Every child is an artist. The problem is how to remain an artist once we grow up.

Pablo Picasso

Swiss School students got to answer that very question by participating in the Wax Museum. Drawing on their creativity, each of the children had the artistic license to recreate their role model. Creativity, today, is the most important leadership quality for success in business, according to a new study by IBM.

The revolution is not an apple that falls when it is ripe. You have to make it fall.

Che Guevara

While the Wax Museum is not a revolution, we made the apple fall through the work of dedicated teachers



and engaged students. In the weeks leading up to the Wax Museum Day, students researched background information about their chosen historical figure. They were required to write a short essay that captured the essence of that figure's personality, life journey and achievements. Once the research was completed, the transformation process began where students worked on creating their costumes, preparing their one-minute speeches and decorating their display boards.

Learning never exhausts the mind.

Leonardo da Vinci

Generally speaking, we associate 'learning' with cognitive, formal learning such as studying and memorising vocabulary, factual information of all kinds, mathematical formulas and so on. However, this is only a part of how we learn at the Swiss School. We also learn through positive experiences and positive emotions. A key word is 'significance' – if something matters to a child, it will be learnt.

A TRIUMPHANT OPENING

On the day of the exhibition opening, the students dressed as their characters,



carrying props and display boards. They posed and froze, ready to come alive at the push of a button. Parents, teachers and students poured into the hall, eager to 'meet' some very influential people.

Hugs can do great amounts of good – especially for children.

Princess Diana

Positive, honest reinforcement and constructive feedback are the best forms of encouragement in the process of learning. Everyone left the exhibition having learnt something about the historical figures, about poise under pressure, and about how much our students can accomplish when we hand them the reigns to their education.

The Wax Museum was a positive learning experience for all. We would like to thank all the children for giving us the opportunity to visit this wonderful exhibition of their work.

Article contributed by Reena Rai and Christian Heusser, photos contributed by Christian Heusser