



DEAR *Dear friends!* FRIENDS!

My name is Marta Litvinskaya, class of 2018, and this academic year I was kindly invited to participate in the CIS alumni organisation as vice president. Our alumni are as vibrant as CIS and it has been a wonderful experience to continue maintaining meaningful connections with other graduates and teachers through various events hosted by the school in Moscow. Many of my friends who graduated CIS and went on to study in the UK often participate in meetings of the alumni association in London. With more current students at CIS looking to also study in Switzerland, as myself, in the following years the alumni association will grow far beyond Moscow and the UK. It is amazing to see how throughout this year the project has continued to grow and brought so many positive memories and experiences to alumni, parents and teachers at CIS.



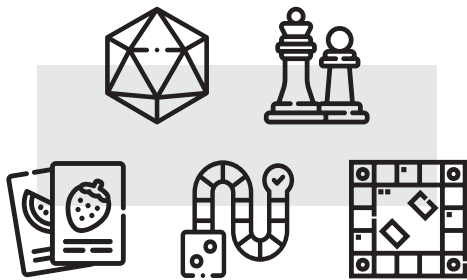
It is, however, important to emphasise that aside from the positive memories and meaningful connections, the alumni association serves many other important purposes as a separate institution within CIS. In its essence, the alumni association aims to reach, serve and engage CIS graduates, parents and friends in an effort to promote lifetime mutually beneficial relationships that result in volunteer engagement, goodwill and philanthropic support. What connects our community is an exceptional shared experience that doesn't need to end once we graduate. Even though, it is not possible to bring back some of the school moments we are so fond of - revising together before an exam, organising school dances, participating in drama plays and sports, it is always possible to be a part of helping CIS grow by sharing our personal valuable experiences with the students, and forming an organisation that will continue to grow and help form connections between the school and its students. With more and more graduates becoming a part of the alumni association we will be able to promote their interests globally, connecting and strengthening the bonds between graduates of different generations and countries. Today, staying connected is becoming easier with the increased use of social media, our alumni are now able to connect in real time to share their memories and stories.

Marta Litvinskaya,
Vice President, University of Geneva

Monthly Meetings with Boardgames became a tradition. Join us!

We could not wait any longer. We met with our alumni in the beginning of March to check up on each other and spend an evening with a bunch of lovely people. We needed no reason to meet up other than missing each other badly, but the month of March is a special time here. Spring is in the air, thoughts of the coming warm days bring joy to our hearts, and of course, International Women day on the 8th!

This meeting was the first time we had a very young member of community joining us: Ms. Ekaterina came by with her son Makar who seemed to enjoy the event quite a bit. And for a good reason: there was a lot of activities to participate in: chatting with people you haven't seen in a long time, posing for a caricature – portrait which you take home as a souvenir, attending a workshop on braiding wrist bracelets and playing board games. And not to mention the delicious food and tea with sweets which were available at the venue (ButaHouse café), thanks for a warm welcome and for making the night special!



#ALUMNICISFAMILY

School visit. Always welcome and waiting for you!

As a graduate from the CIS and a university student, I had the opportunity to visit two school campuses and talk to high school students about exams, extracurricular activities and the university. I was pleased, because I am sure that, having received answers to their questions, they have gained confidence and are waiting ahead with their heads raised. Such meetings are useful for them as they allow students to get the latest information and learn about things that are not in the books or on the Internet, and in addition, the information provided has been verified. This is also a huge motivation for students, because they see in front of them a person who has passed exams, which they will also have to pass in the near future. It was great to visit the school, to meet old teachers and some of the students I knew, so I hope that practices such as communicating with alumni and students will happen more often as they are effective for all parties and, most importantly, for young generation

Shamil Nasirov, Ambassador in Russia,
University of Greenwich



The night was special, many events were happening at once and we felt so good! On top of that it was cool to appear in CIS Alumni Association hoodies and we looked smart and united in the pictures, yeah! Special thank you goes to Mr Ildar for arranging and presenting these!

It is always very pleasant to hear about the success of our alumni, to find out what they have achieved, to be surprised that those whom you still considered children have already grown up, someone has married and got children, someone has climbed up the career ladder, someone travelled many places on Earth - there is so much happening! Let's meet more often! Stay safe, stay CIS!

Alexei Kalimullin,
Alumni Relations Officer



Cooking class at Jamie Oliver Cookery School became a tradition



Recently, on April 15, I was very happy to attend a culinary master class for the first time as a graduate. In this little essay I want to share my impressions and emotions from this meeting.

We learned to prepare risotto and panna cotta under the careful guidance of chef Mateo. At the same time, the class did not involve only cooking, Mateo introduced us to the history of dishes and the nuances of their preparation. Much of what was told was a news to me. For example, I didn't know that such a wonderful sweetness can be prepared with gorgonzola. The dishes turned out to be not only beautiful, but also delicious!

The atmosphere in the studio is very cozy, the guys are very kind and sociable and the facts and guidance were incredibly useful. They explained in a clear and interesting way how to choose and prepare a broth for risotto.

The meeting took place in a relaxed and friendly atmosphere. This evening turned out to be very exciting, eventful, interesting and instructive. It was a wonderful experience for me, I myself would never have been able to cook on my own what we did in the master class, but now I look forward to the moment when I can treat my loved ones with the culinary masterpieces, which Mateo taught me to cook. I will surprise my friends with culinary talents that were awakened in me during this event!

I had a great time surrounded by friendly, warm and cozy company. Attending these workshops is a great way to spend an evening, meet friends ... and it can also be a great gift for anyone who loves to learn new things. It's nice that the guys do what they like, and one can immediately notice their attitude to the job they do. Thank you for a wonderful evening, for having fun and for the great mood!

I want to say a special thank you to the organizers of our alumni meetings for the great idea and the positive emotions we get at these meetings! I am looking forward to new meetings!

Nezahet Selek,
Higher School of Economics



Alumni Meetings Connect

Another weekend, another alumni meeting. It's wonderful to see that these events are becoming a good tradition and are happening more and more often. School becomes a good foundation for tightly bound community and our alumni society follows this trend. This time we had a big group of alumni from the very early years of the school. Many of them already have their own kids and are thinking of their education too. Time flew by with cup of tea in hand and a warm conversation about good old days in school and about the bright future that awaits us. As a separate event we visited a presentation of our friend and in one way a colleague - Dmitriy (Aquaman), he taught some of our students the intricacies of deep diving in an NDL diving course. Dmitriy invited us to his presentation of opening of a new course "Diving for stunt actors", this was a part of a big diving convention called Dive Show 2021, we had an opportunity to take a deep dive into the world of diving world and spend good time in the company of our friends. Looking forward to next meetings!

Vadim Valiullin,
Alumni Relations Officer