



SURVAL MONTREUX
GIRLS' SCHOOL IN SWITZERLAND



Spring 2023 News
Challenge, Own, Lead

Warm Greetings from Surval Montreux

Looking back, 2022-23 has simply flown by.

At the start of the year, we launched our fresh set of values which have underpinned our focus in all aspects of school life and which set our ambition for every girl: Challenge, Own and Lead. We aspire for each girl to challenge herself, own her choices and make the most of opportunities in setting her unique pathway. The acronym for Challenge, Own, Lead - COL - so aptly brings to mind images of the famous challenging "cols" of the Tour de France.

Whilst girls may smile at the regularity of references to our values, I am confident that in years to come, they will look back on their memories and recognise the impact their Surval experience has had on their development, the independent spirit it has encouraged in them and the appreciation of different perspectives it has instilled - not to mention the friendships that will endure. Their Surval story will form part of the rich, colourful tapestry which will become their life story and shape and inform their future pathways.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank you to all for your support and commitment to Surval during this year.

To the girls, thank you for everything you have individually brought to the Surval community. You have worked hard and played hard. You have each created memories that will stay with you for life and contributed to the collective memories of Surval which will live on as we look back on 2022-23 in years to come. It has been an absolute pleasure watching you develop, form lifelong friendships, try new things, sometimes make mistakes and learn from them, and see you grow in independence and confidence through the year, thank you.

To parents, thank you for entrusting us with your daughters' care and education. This is a huge responsibility and privilege - thank you.

To my colleagues - thank you for all your hard work, commitment, care and inspiration for the girls. It is a strong team effort and every member of the Surval team plays a significant role, thank you.

I wish you all a wonderful summer.



Nicola Dudley
Principal, Surval Montreux





SURVAL MONTREUX
GIRLS' SCHOOL IN SWITZERLAND

SURVAL IN PARIS

Paris, ma jolie! Nos étudiantes sont parties à la découverte de la capitale française et sont revenues la tête pleine de merveilleux souvenirs!

Our students enjoyed a busy few days in the beautiful French capital, Paris. From attending a fashion show in the Galeries Lafayette, to sharing dinner together on a boat on the Seine, and spending the day at DisneyLand Paris, they've definitely made some wonderful memories.





CHALLENGE

Celebrating academic achievements

Naturally, Challenge has been a focus in the classroom and all of our prizewinners should be congratulated for their achievements over the year. Girls who worked hard towards external exams - IGCSEs, DELF, IELTS and Advanced Placement exams - deserve particular mention. This is the second year we have delivered Advanced Placement courses, university-level courses designed to challenge students beyond High School level. The AP students were rewarded with strong results for their efforts. All three subjects in which students took AP courses this year at Surval - English, History and Art - recorded their strongest results yet with a particularly outstanding Grade 5 from Katya in her Art AP - only 6,4 % of students taking AP Art achieve this top grade which bears testament to Katya's hard work and incredible creative talent.

All Grade 12 students have worked hard during the year to achieve their High School Diploma and meet the requirements for their university applications. Congratulations to Grade 12 for achieving offers at their chosen universities:

- Fashion Design at Parsons College of Art and Design, Paris
- Marketing at Webster University, Geneva
- Marketing and Communications at the International University of Monaco
- Business Management at Royal Holloway University, London
- Media Studies at Webster University, Geneva

As students work toward their college and career goals, it's important to build in opportunities to document and reflect on their progress. In English class, we achieve this using portfolio-based assessments. Throughout the year, students built a website showcasing their best work from each unit then wrote reflections on the qualities of their work. This not only required students to engage in self-feedback on their work but also challenged them to use digital tools to build engaging websites to document their progress. Luisa in grade 10 created a highly effective digital portfolio, and in reflecting on her final essay wrote, *"I used an advanced vocabulary with the goal of making my essay more interesting and complete and I believe the goal was met. I used clear quotations which helped me when making my point clear. The thesis I used was effective and memorable which makes the reader interested in the topic. I did a really good job when analyzing the quotes and reflecting on them. I feel I did my best and I am really happy of how my hard work is reflected in it."*

“ *My biggest challenge was keeping up with all of the work I had to do and making sure that it was good quality work. Since it was my senior year, I had to do a lot of university preparation as well as complete my APs well.* ”

Katya, Surval Graduate





SURVAL MONTREUX
GIRLS' SCHOOL IN SWITZERLAND



A Bridge to Hope

"Owning your voice" is one of the values of our school. With that, a focus is set on encouraging girls to own their voice and use it effectively for positive impact. We launched several "Student Voices" - in essence student committees - to drive different aspects of school life. It has been a particular highlight to see the Student Etiquette and Events Voice go from strength to strength over the year, with over half of girls signing up for this club in the final term, culminating in a highly successful gala charity dinner run by the Etiquette and Events Voice, in collaboration with our Charity Committee. The event, entitled "A Bridge to Hope" raised over CHF 1'000.- for EVAM and the Domaine Foyer Montreux, a local charity supporting refugees, with the money specifically going to equip an activity room for Ukrainian children.





OWN

Life is an adventure

To our graduates, you are taking full ownership of the next stage of your life journey. You have had this end in sight for a long time, anticipating the next steps. You have worked hard to get to this stage, you have each set yourself up for the next step. The world is your oyster and your life pathway will take twists and turns that you can never imagine now. Life is an adventure.

You will face multiple route choices in life's journey and it will not always be an easy decision which way to follow. Do not be afraid to follow your individual pathway, to take the path less travelled. We look forward to hearing where life's journey takes you, and what pathways and detours you may take. Remember challenges lead to opportunities. Work hard, play hard, be kind to yourself and others and embrace opportunities - we wish you all the very best of luck!





SURVAL MONTREUX
GIRLS' SCHOOL IN SWITZERLAND





Viva Italia!

La vita è bella per le nostre ragazze!

Our students enjoyed a long weekend in Italy towards the end of this school year to make the most of Italy. The trip was a full Art, Culture and Food immersion! Highlights included a visit of the Milano Triennale and the Uffizi Galleries in Florence, delicious gelato, and Risotto alla Milanese all whilst capturing the beautiful Italian way of life. It's safe to say the girls had a lot of fun!





LEAD

The Power of Reflection: our Surval Award

This year we have put a focus on the power of reflection as a lifelong skill which enables us to articulate what we have gained from experiences and to reflect critically on what steps we will take to continually aim higher and challenge ourselves further. Our Surval Award was launched last August, with a focus on instilling in students a habit of reflection and self-evaluation in completing an online portfolio as a record of their engagement with and reflection on all aspects of Surval life - academic, enrichment, sports, ambassadorship and service, and super-curricular where students go above and beyond. This lifelong skill of critical reflection and evidence of commitment and initiative are what help candidates stand out in university and job applications. At our Graduation this year, we had the pleasure of awarding our first set of Surval Award certificates to our students.

Congratulations to our students for embracing the wealth of opportunities open to them at Surval and learning from their experiences so that they go away enriched with a broader perspective on life and greater self-awareness.

“ I am so happy I had the opportunity to travel because I have experienced a lot of personal growth. ”

Luisa - Grade 10

“ I'm always thankful to the people who help me, like my classmates and staff. I want to express my thanks and give them the same attention as they give me. ”

Camila - Grade 10

“ The DELF exam really gave me a purpose to pursue something, to do my best, and this is my best motivation, in anything I do. ”

Katya - Grade 12

“ I have noticed that when I actively participate in class, I have an easier time understanding the lesson. ”

Mariela - Grade 12



SURVAL MONTREUX
GIRLS' SCHOOL IN SWITZERLAND





SURVAL MONTREUX
GIRLS' SCHOOL IN SWITZERLAND

Challenge, Own, Lead