

BESOZZI NEWS

A newspaper by CLASS 2C, 3C and 2E 'INGLESE POTENZIATO'



An interview

Valentina Summa is a young writer of fantasy books. She has already published three books. Some of us have already met her because we have been involved in a creative writing project.

Her lessons and activities were very interesting, she gave us some advice about how to write well, so we asked her some questions about her life and her books.

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SUMMER ENGLISH COURSES IN ENGLAND

Students tell their experiences



School ends on 8th June but for the third-year students school is not finished yet. The written exams begin on 12th June. Good luck to everyone!



KEY and PRELIMINARY EXAMINATIONS

Sixty-four students took the KEY and PRELIMINARY exams on 20th May. Our school has been Cambridge ESOL Exam Preparation centre since 2013. The results will be published on Cambridge website at the end of June: stay connected!



Drawing competition NO SMOKING

All the students voted the drawings of the exhibition about the fight against smoking and the best three drawings will be used as notices of NO SMOKING in our school. Congratulations to the future winners!

Where are you from?

I'm from Vigevano but my family is from Sicily.

When did you started writing?

I started when I was 18, 19 years old.

How did you understand that you were good at writing?

I didn't understand it and I don't know if I am a good writer, I can't judge my work, I let the others say if I am good or not.

Did your family and your friends support you when you started writing?

No, they didn't. Only now my parents have changed their idea about my job.

What is the first book you wrote?

It is *Dragon Lance* and it is only on line. Then I wrote *Ko-mython*.

What is your book *Ko-mython* about?

It is a fantasy book about friendship and truth.

Are your books translated into English?

No, I'm trying to do that.

Which of your characters do you most identify with? Why?

When I wrote *Ko-mython*, my favourite character was Vania but we are not similar now. Oronzio is my favourite now because he is wise.

Which book did you like most when you were a child?

The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe by C.S. Lewis.

Are you writing a book at the moment?

I'm writing the third book of the Saga.

Who is your favourite writer?

Stephen King, he creates good characters.

What type of books do you like reading?

I read about history, I also like science fiction, horror stories and historical novels

How many books do you read a year?

I read 50, 60 books a year. In the last three years I have less time to read.

Is writing your job or do you do another job?

I am also an actress, a singer, a painter and a teacher, too.

What advice can you give to a young writer?

Write, write and write! Write with no fear, let your family and friends judge, what they think about your writing is really important.

Have you ever had the writer's block?

I've never had what is generally known as 'the writer's block', but in the last three years it has happened to spend some hours on the computer without writing anything significant.

How many books have you published?

A: In total I've published three books: two about *Ko-mython* and one is a collection of poems, *The nightly road*.

Have you got any unpublished or half-finished books?

Yes, I have. I've written other two books, one containing poems and another one is part of *Ko-mython Saga* but up to now they haven't been published.

How many hours a day do you write?

At the moment more or less an hour a day is devoted to writing, but some years ago I spent three or four hours on it.

How did you choose the names of your characters?

Some have been invented, others are partially the names of role-play games.

How long did it take you to write your first book?

To write the first book it took me two years, because after a year, unfortunately, the file about the book was deleted and I had to start writing it again.

Which actor/ actress would you like to see playing you main characters from your books?

It is difficult, I really like two of the actors of The Hobbit. I'd like the actor of the king of dwarves as Orongo. For the women's roles, it's difficult, I don't know...

Where have you drawn inspiration for your first book?

I've drawn inspiration from novels I read and from role-play games, even if I have to say the character I like most is the Hobbit in 'The Lord of Rings'.

How long have you been writing?

I've been doing it for 21 years, since 1996, more or less.

Have you ever thought of becoming a writer?

When I started in 1996 I considered it just as a hobby, I hadn't taken into account the idea of becoming a writer. Today, instead, it is my job, a job not so profitable, indeed.

What of your books is the best in your opinion? Why?

My favourite one is the third Ko-mython, not published yet, because it is deeper. My characters in the third book are more adults, they are 23, 24, 25 years. I was more involved, I had to study medieval history, the battles, so it was a hard work, everything had to be coherent with what I wrote before, that's why I love it more than the others.

Thank you, Valentina. We are looking forward to reading your next book of Ko-mython Saga.



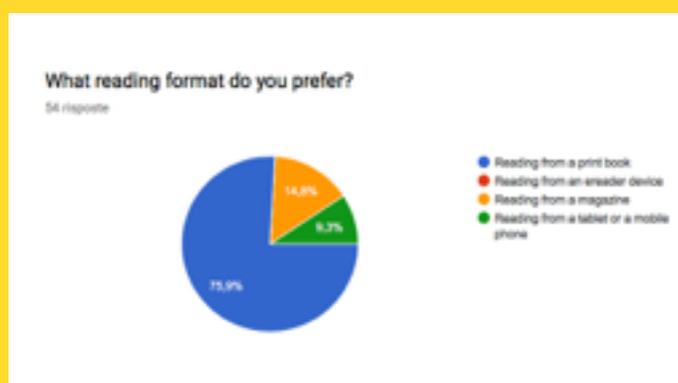
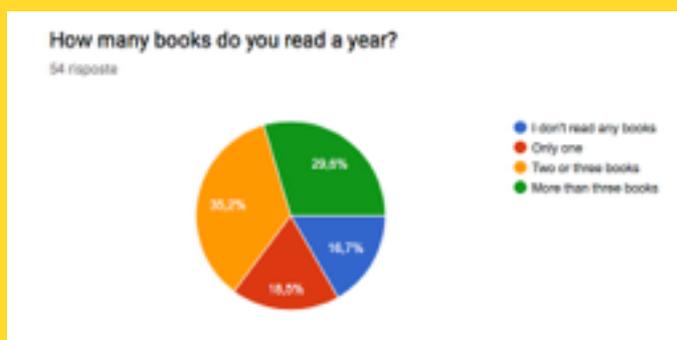
Valentina Summa's books are a good reading on holiday. They are so gripping that you won't be able to put them down.

TEENAGERS' READING HABITS

Do teenagers like reading?

Are you sure teenagers don't read?

'Teenagers don't like reading', who says that? It isn't true. Look at our school survey about Besozzi students' reading habits and you'll find out that teenagers like reading and they prefer paper books, that's incredible! 35,2% of students read two or three books a year and about 30% read more than three books a year.





Count down to summer 2017!!!

Are you ready for the summer holidays?
Do you know how to spend your free time? Are you staying at home or are you going anywhere with your family?
Are you going to a summer camp?
Here are some tips for your holidays.

THE SUMMER CAMP "HAPPY & FIT"

Do you like swimming?

Do you like sports?

So you can join "Happy & Fit" camp. It is open from 12th June to 4th August and from 28th August to 8th September, it starts at 7.30 a.m. but the activities begin at 9.30 and it finishes at 6.30 p.m. It is at 22, Tornura Street in Cassolnovo and it is for boys and girls from 5 to 14 years old. There are a lot of coaches and coach assistants, they are learning the job but they are very good. The activities include a lot of sports, for example beach volley, football and other team sports and games. A typical day at the summer camp consists of two hours in the swimming pool next to the gym where you stay during the day. A pool, which is 50 cm deep, is connected to the pool with 90 cm depth and to another bigger pool (140 cm deep). The opposite part of the pool is deeper because it is 180 cm deep.

You should wear a cotton T-shirt, shorts, socks, trainers and you should bring a costume, a pair of flip-flops and a bath robe. You need these clothes to play in the garden and in the swimming pool.

For your registration you can call the telephone number 038192325 or send an email to happy&fit@gmail.com. The price is € 61 per week but if you book two weeks you'll have 50% discount and for 3 weeks they'll give you 5 free tickets to have lunch at our canteen. There are special prices for kids who want to stay only half a day.

Call the reception for further details.

(C. Simonetti, F. Spaccasassi, P. Botros, L. Medina, N. Soru)

THE SUMMER CAMP GIOCASPORT 2017

If you like practising a lot of sports, join the summer camp "Giocasport 2017". Their coaches are highly qualified, they teach volleyball, dancing and football. The camp is for boys and girls from 6 to 14 years old. It is in Vigevano, at 15, Libertà Avenue, near Robecchi School. Here you can find two gyms and a wide open-air area. It costs € 50 per week. You have also to pay €7 for lunch every day. You can enter from 7.30 to 9.00 a.m. and from 9 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. there are a lot of activities. Lunch is at 12.30. From 2 to 3 p.m. you can relax but, don't worry, sport activities start at 3 p.m. again: dancing, football, volleyball and traditional games. The camp closes at 5 p.m. They are going to the swimming pool twice a week. This is a great summer camp, they're waiting for you!
(M. Cosentino, A. Carella, D. Cotta, M. Lusiani, C. Aliu)



WORLD SPORTS CAMP

Do you like playing basketball? And are you good at English? Then this is the perfect camp for you!

Professional coaches teach here. Their expert coaching staff provides an opportunity for all the athletes to develop their individual skills as well as their team play. In this camp kids can choose what sport they want to participate in and, thanks to their training, they can improve their athletic skills. It is for athletes from 14 years old and it is from 26th June to 5th August, it starts at 8.45/ 9.00 a.m. and it finishes at 5.30/ 5.45 p.m. The summer camp is in Massachusetts, in the USA, so it is also a good chance for foreign athletes to improve their English. The rate is very expensive but it includes 5 World Sport Camp t-shirts, a sports bag, water bottle the first week of attendance, a World Sport Camp gold medal the last day of attendance. There is a special trip to Six Flags and 10% discount for each additional sibling attending.

At Worlds Sports Camp, they make athletes into stars! Join them!

(I. Cocco, G. Tanzillo, M. Calcagno, L. Delrossi, O. Fornari)

finishes on 4th August. It is open from Monday to Friday from 9.00 a.m. to 5.00 p.m.

There are a lot of amusing sports and labs, including drama, swimming, team games, water polo, basketball, volleyball, tennis, football, beach volley, synchronized swimming, modern and classical dance.

Register at the reception of the sports centre and for further information you can also call 0381346625.

(A. C. Ditrani, L. Gandolfi, N. Caso, E. Bedon, S. Cotorobai)



SANTA MARIA SUMMER CAMP

Do you like outdoor sports? Then go to Santa Maria sports centre!

They organize a fantastic summer camp for kids! Some expert coaches teach their activity and help kids to do better in their sport.

The camp is open for boys and girls from all the ages. You don't have to be good at sports to take part in the summer course.

It is in Vigevano, at Santa Maria Sports centre, in Lombardy. It starts on 12th June and it

A different type of holiday

Last year I took part in a summer holiday in Britain. It was my first time and before leaving I was very curious.

Some of my friends had told me about it and their reports were very exciting, but one thing is to hear news, a different thing is to experience it personally.

Destination was Colchester, a town north of London. I joined the group at the airport and after a short flight, the plane landed at Heathrow. It took just about an hour to reach the college and when we arrived I knew my adventure was starting.

My room was light, wide with the bathroom en suite and after unpacking we had a tour of the campus. It was really fantastic!!! The first thing that surprised me was how huge it was. The accommodations (the place where students sleep) were on gentle slopes and the buildings with the classrooms and the restaurants in the middle. The sports facilities were spectacular and every day we had the opportunity to try different sports.

That's why I usually spent my day. I woke up at 7.30 and after washing and dressing, I went to the canteen to have breakfast. We could choose what to eat and drink and I generally had some slices of bread and bacon. Then we went to classes which started at 8.55. There we spoke only English as each class consisted of students from different countries. At 10.00 we had a break and then lesson again till 12.30.

As the weather was fine we had lunch sitting outside and then we went to a park near a pond to relax just bit. Yes, I say just a bit because at 2.30 the afternoon activities started. Every day something different was offered: football, basketball, volleyball, table tennis, dance, workshops, drama or, twice a week, a half- day

excursion. We visited Colchester, its castle and its fabulous zoo.

As we know, English people have dinner early. I thought it would be terrible, but I got used to it immediately. If you are with your friends having dinner at 6.00 is not so bad. After it we had time for a shower and then ready again for the evening activities. Films in English, quizzes, talent show, karaoke, disco just to mention a few.



When they finished we returned to our accommodations where we spent some time together playing cards, chatting and laughing. One evening our teacher cooked spaghetti for the group and we enjoyed it very much. To tell the truth English food was not so bad, but just a bit monotonous. Italian food is anyway another matter!

At the weekend we had full-day excursions. On that occasion we visited London three times.

I would say something more, but I realize I have written quite a lot. To sum up I can only recommend to try a similar experience, it is significant to improve English, but also to gain confidence and to prove oneself. The day was so busy and what I did so funny that I was never homesick. I liked it so much that this year I'm repeating it and I look forward to leaving!

(Alessandro Merlo 3C)

And now some comments of students who have tried a language summer course abroad.

'The two weeks I spent in Colchester were a great experience for me. New friends, school, leaders ... what to say: everything was perfect! I did not only improve my English but I also met some wonderful people I shared unforgettable moments with'.

(Tommaso)

I consider the summer courses in Edinburgh as one of the most beautiful moments of my life. The school preparation was great, I had the opportunity to do amazing activities and to make friends with people of other nationalities, with whom I am still in contact! It was the first experience and definitely not the last!

(Chiara)



Not only I liked the school very much, but I also found competent teachers.

(Niccolò)

A fantastic experience, that's the least I can say.

(Andrea)

In those three weeks I learnt to live with guys different from me and to appreciate a language different from mine. I felt at ease both with the teachers and with the girls I shared the

accommodation with. It was tough to come back to Italy.

(Silvia)

My two-week summer courses allowed me to become more confident. I strongly recommend an experience like that to all the kids, at least once during their adolescence.

(Vale)



The choice to take part in a language summer course last summer proved to be much better than I thought. Before leaving I was full of expectations and I have to say they were all met with flying colours!

(Alessandro)



LET'S STOP PASSIVE SMOKING!

In the Cambridge English Dictionary the definition of passive smoking is *"the unwanted breathing in of other people's cigarette smoke, especially by people who do not smoke"*.

The key word is UNWANTED, this means that people breathe tobacco smoking even if they don't want but the consequences for them are the same as for smokers. In which way? We discovered it with our Science teacher, Mrs Natale, who explained us how dangerous smoking can be.

Passive smoking, also called second-hand smoke, can increase a non-smoker's risk to get lung or larynx cancer by a quarter. It can also cause other health problems, for example stroke, heart disease, respiratory infections, cough, sore throat and eyes and nose irritations.

Among non-smokers there are, unfortunately, a lot of children whose exposure to second-hand smoke is particularly harmful because it can cause a high risk of respiratory infections, asthma, bacterial meningitis, cough and shortness of breath. Children are unable to escape second-hand smoke at home. They suffer health damage from passive smoking more than adults. They breathe smoke at home because most parents don't know that tobacco smoke is invisible and it remains on curtains, surfaces and clothes even if they open the windows.

Of course, smoking in cars for non-smokers is even worse than at home and in open air. Studies say that children whose parents smoke get sick more often, have more lung infections and get more ear infections, too.

Smoking during pregnancy affects the baby's health before, during and after the baby is born. The nicotine and the carbon monoxide

are carried through the mum's bloodstream and go directly to the baby. This increases the risks of birth defects, of premature birth, of developing respiratory problems and of Sudden Infant Death Syndrome.

The worst thing about passive smoking is that a lot of people don't know the risks: almost half of Italian people (48%) believe that lung cancer can't be prevented; 43% of the Italian population believes that stopping smoking doesn't reduce the risk of cancer and only 45% people would like to change their life style to prevent cancer.

People, and children too, die from passive smoking and this fact really shocked us.

If your parents smoke, please stop them and tell them that it is dangerous for their and your health. Tell them that if they love you, they can stop smoking or they can smoke when they are not with you.

(Project work 2E)



CREATIVE RECYCLING

Is it a new form of art or is it only rubbish? What do you think?

A geography project with Mrs Dafarra transformed the students into recycling artists!

It was an interesting project to exercise students' imagination and to think about what we throw away and what we can really use again in another way. It is a new way to do art, to create and, why not, to understand how we can help the environment. The students reused what they had at home to give a new life to objects.



Artificial plants made of plastic bottles



An original chessboard whose pieces are made of corks and an elegant photo frame made of plastic straws



Are you smiling? Are you laughing? Well, this is just the reaction we wanted to this very clean family made up of washing liquid bottles!



An old book has been transformed into a nice hedgehog

