

48 LIMASSOL *By Andrianna Philippou*



JUDGES: Soerates Metaxas and Andreas Christou making their assessments

CONGRATULATIONS: Heritage Private School '3D Model Solar Cooling' - awarded gold with Metaxas and Theopemptou presenting their awards



Schools celebrate the environment

A PLASTIC BOTTLE GREENHOUSE, THE CAN POLICE AND 'ALL THINGS GREEN' ON SHOW AT LIMASSOL'S 3RD ROTARY ENVIRONMENTAL FAIR

The only international Rotary Club of Limassol, the Berengaria Cosmopolitan, held its third Annual Environmental Fair for Schools on Sunday at the Venue Centre of the Columbia Plaza in Limassol's Old Town. The well attended Fair attracted plenty of media and public interest as the ambitious and environmentally aware school groups vied for the awards and certificates that were presented by judges, Commissioner for the Environment, Charalambos Theopemptou and Soerates Metaxas, Manager of the Limassol Water Board.

Other judges included Limassol's Mayor Andreas Christou, Rotarian dignitaries and several of the project sponsors, including Bambos Charalambous, Manager of the Columbia Plaza. As the event's major sponsor, Columbia Plaza hosted the Environmental Fair in their Venue Centre Exhibition room and provided welcome refreshments for the competitors following the prize giving ceremony.

Participating teams from the American Academy Private School, the Grammar School, the Heritage Private School and the Red Dragon Private School took part in the three different age categories: Grade - K6, Grade 7 - 9 and Grade 10 - 13. The competition's objective was to show how students could develop their own ideas and

provide a practical application of the concept to implement it, to help improve the environment, ensure sustainability and ensure a practical outcome of the project's execution. Additionally, the Fair included displays and demonstrations by a number of different environmental groups and other eco-friendly organisations. These included Future B Green Energy, Cartridge World, who offer recyclable printer cartridges, Green Dot (Cyprus) and the Water Board of Limassol. The Cyprus University of Technology (CUT) International Students Club, represented by Pauley Tedoff, gave a presentation to the audience highlighting practical ways of 'living sustainably.'

Christou congratulated all the pupils taking part saying "this is a fantastic exhibition; the projects on show here are very encouraging. I believe with so much enthusiasm and interest, my aim of 'Limassol cleaner, Limassol greener' will be achieved." He went on to add that one particular project which was offered by the American Academy and encourages cycling use in the town, has already been endorsed by the municipality and will shortly be implemented.

Theopemptou commented on the pupils' enthusiasm and efforts: "I must say I was very impressed, there were a number of different projects

some of which were above average and what was very impressive was the level of knowledge the students have gained simply participating in the Environmental Fair. The big issue, of course, is always the money or costs involved in implementing the projects... financing some of them would be difficult. But, of course, the most important benefit of doing projects like this is that the tremendous knowledge gained is filtered down from the students to their families and friends and the wider community."

The Rotary Environmental Fair is designed to promote environmental good practice in Cyprus and is now an annual event supported by the Cosmopolitan-Berengaria Club of Limassol. Club President Bill Dahmer said: "We are delighted with the outcome of this event. It is important to give something back to the community...it's good to see the students taking this to heart and working so hard to make it such a success."

"This is very much a team effort and together with all the Rotarian members, we would like to thank all our sponsors for helping make this a great success." Supporting sponsors of the event were Coca Cola, Sprite, Lanitis, the Electricity Authority of Cyprus, Gaia Solutions, the Phileletheros and Cyprus Weekly newspapers.



NICE GOING: Christou and Metaxas with Grammar School 'Green Club' team - awarded silver



WELL DONE: Red Dragon School 'Funergy' team - awarded silver - presented by Patrocleos Patrocleou

All the fun of the Art Fair



CELEBRATING CULTURE: President of Halkoutsia 10A Parents Association Georgia Attikoupi, Mesa Gitonia Mayor Christos Mesis, Halkoutsia 10A head Christos Tofas and Theotokos Foundation manager Costas Katzonis

Cultural Week was celebrated last week at local junior school, Halkoutsia 10A, in Limassol's Mesa Gitonia municipality. After weeks of preparation, a long awaited art exhibition and sale finally came together in the presence of Mesa Gitonia's Mayor, Christos Mesis, and other specially invited guests from the municipality, who attended the evening of art displays, music performances and a presentation by child psychologist George Pogiati on the importance of 'Positive Parenting.' The school theatre had been dressed as an art gallery and all the works of art, created by fifth and sixth graders, were available for visitors to buy after the evening's presentation. As Mayor Mesis was escorted around the 'gallery' to see the work on display, he made several purchases for his municipality offices; he also stopped to congratulate the young pupils for their "ex-

cellent work." Asked how many pieces he had bought he said: "To be honest, I've lost count. They are very talented children and it's difficult to choose, they are all so good. I think I've selected at least 7 or 8. I better leave some for the parents to buy." The proceeds from all the artwork sold will be donated to the Theotokos Foundation, whose manager, Kostas Katzonis, was also delighted with the evening's success. Headmaster of Halkoutsia 10A, Christos Tofas, said: "I'm very proud of all the pupils. They have worked really hard. But this evening is also about the culmination of the hard work of the Halkoutsia Parents' Association of our school. With their President Georgia Attikoupi, they have shown loyalty and commitment to helping establish this annual event, now in its second year, which goes from strength to strength."