

## University students made cake with young people with down syndrome

The university students visited the youth with Down syndrome at the center where they were educated. Students studying in the gastronomy department made pasta and cake together with special young people.

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) students visited the Mutluluğun Adresi Special Rehabilitation Center at Sarıyer within the scope of social responsibility project. The children with Down syndrome had fun with the students who prepared fresh pasta and pastry together. Stating that the center is a life center for youngsters with down syndrome, the Director of the Center Bülent Aytaç Hançer said that in the basis of the work with individuals with disabilities it stands the aim for them to grow up as individuals who can maintain their own lives in all stages of life can become.

“THEY GET INCLUDED IN DAILY LIFE SKILLS”

Director Bülent Aytaç Hançer pointed out that individuals with down syndrome are involved in daily life skills with activities.

Hançer added that “The aim of the studies is that students can become individuals who can maintain their own lives in all stages of life. In addition to increasing the academic level such as Turkish, Mathematics, Language, Speech and Alternative Communication Skills, we make different studies in order to gain daily life skills, social adaptation skills and social life skills.”

Hançer also mentioned the kitchen workshop where students are involved in daily life skills, as well as other existing workshops. She gave examples from the work, skills, visual arts studio and music workshop.

“REAL NEEDS: EDUCATION”

The Association President Abdullah Özkan talked about the processes that have taken place since the foundation of the association. Özkan stated that people think that their actual needs are education, and added: “We strive to focus on training-based studies. Our association will continue to provide food and clothing assistance to those in need in our country and the world.”

Head of the Department of Gastronomy and Culinary Arts Asst. Prof. Dr. Murat Doğan said that they encourage students to contribute to social responsibility projects and they attach importance to it. In the kitchen workshop, students prepared fresh pasta and a cake together with children with Down syndrome, and took a photo after the event.

## **The share of education given until the age of 6 is big in success**

Physiotherapist Çağıl Ertürk stated that compulsory pre-school education will affect children's physical development positively: "Early years are very important in terms of cognitive, character, social and physical changes. 33 percent of the academic success of children up to the age of 18, up to the age of 6 constitutes the success".

Lecturer at Istanbul Gelisim University Physiotherapist Çağıl Ertürk emphasized that preschool education has many contributions to the development of children and that the quality of education at this time is very important, and said: "Early years are very important in terms of cognitive, character, social and physical changes. 33 percent of the academic success of children under 18, constitutes the success of the years under 6."

### **ACTIVITIES ARE IMPORTANT**

Physiotherapist Çağıl Ertürk stating that activities in preschool education institutions are important in the development of the child's hand functions, said:

"Since the child comes to the preschool education center, he/she will use his hands without interruption. The activities carried out in both individual and group activities increase its hand functional capacity. It is important that the child uses tools such as crayons, various papers, scissors or tools such as glue and tape during the painting he makes in preschool education institutions. Due to the repetition of the same activities every day, it is inevitable for the child to develop hand muscle strength, finger grip and fine motor skills."

### **"POSITIVE IMPACT ON PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT"**

Ertürk stating that the training given play a big role in the development of the child, and added: "The age range from pre-school to primary school is of getting special interest because the transformations of children in this age develop their visual perception skills in a good way and prepare children for primary school. Pre-school education has a positive effect on children's physical development".

### **THE EFFECT OF PRE-SCHOOL EDUCATION MUST BE EVALUATED IN LONG TERM**

Stating that making pre-school education compulsory would positively affect the physical development of children, Erturk, ended her speech as follows:

"Children with good physical development, good hand skills and good grip will be more successful in academic and social activities. In order to make the studies in this area healthier, a wide range of studies should be done. Especially in our country, there is need for studies and normative data to provide information about the average values of hand grip and skill tests of children. Manual skills and grip strength can affect many outcomes, including the child's

success and career choice. The impact of pre-school education should be evaluated in the long term. In pre-school education, joint studies with the Ministry of National Education and teachers should be carried out for protective physiotherapy studies.”

## **Students were given certificates**

In the framework of the cooperation protocol signed between IGU and Travelport in the past years, Galileo Training and Ticketing Program started to be provided by Asst. Prof. Dr. Salim İbiş. Students who were successful in Ticketing and Booking course, and passed the exam which was held by Travelport, received the Travelport Galileo certificates.

Certificates were given to eligible students by Türker Dönmez, the Education Director of Galileo Turkey. Travelport is a leading travel platform operating in 170 countries of the world, headquartered in the UK, providing solutions in the global tourism industry, distribution and technology. Travelport Galileo is an international program used by travel agencies and airlines for reservation and ticketing.

## **Returned from World championship with degrees**

4th year student Selami Kalaycı from Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) School of Physical Education and Sports returned with degrees from the Wabba World Championship held in the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.

Selami Kalaycı, 4th year student of Istanbul Gelisim University School Physical Education and Sports, Exercise and Sport Sciences Department, participated in Wabba World Championship held in Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus. Kalaycı, who returned from the competition with degrees, won 3rd place in Juniors Body Building and 3rd place in HP-175 Senior Men category.

Selami Kalaycı, was congratulated by the Director of the School of Physical Education and Sports Asst. Prof. Dr. Mehmet Soyol, Lect. Tekmil Sezen Göksu, instructors and students.

## **Private show for international students from IGU - TOMER**

Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) Turkish and Foreign Languages Application and Research Center (İGÜ-TÖMER) organized the Shadow Play and Hacivat - Karagöz live performance event to promote traditional Turkish theater culture.

Shadow Play and Hacivat - Karagöz show organized by IGU - TÖMER were held in Farabi Conference Hall of IGU School of Foreign Languages.

IGU - TÖMER Director Asst. Prof. Şahin Gök stated that they aimed to introduce Turkish traditional theater culture to their international students and to help students to improve their Turkish speaking skills, and added: "We contribute to the learning of our language more easily by international students with theater, cinema, documentary film shows, museum visits, various interviews and conference activities."

The event was followed with interest by international students.

## **Awareness study for visually impaired people**

A seminar titled "Lighten the Darkness" was held by senior students of Public Relations and Advertising to create awareness about the visually impaired.

Prior to the seminar held at Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU), an event titled "The Dark Journey" was organized. At the event, volunteers were asked to put black bands on their eyes and find their way with a white cane without seeing. During the event, students from different departments experienced the difficulties of walking in the open space without seeing. Some of the students, "I realized where I was by smelling and hearing", and some of the students said, "Although I knew the school, I was lost and I was worried, where I turned a wall was come against me."

As a speaker, the Special Education Teacher Oğuzhan Gürel, Vice directors of Gözder Association Oğuz Taşdemir and Nur Sefa Özkan attended the seminar. The speakers talked about the problems of the visually impaired, the expectation of the visually impaired from the society, issues of empathy and sympathy. Oğuz Taşdemir, talked about the cross-sections of his life and how the people's unconscious behavior can be disruptive. Taşdemir told that sometimes people who he asked for a help to cross the road grumble like "what are you doing in the street, stay at home" or some some help to cross by pulling his clothes.

The data obtained from the survey conducted on a group of 75 students in the project research phase were also shared with the participants. The research was conducted by Public Relations and Advertising students Damla Kaya, Emre Can Uçar, Dönay Şenel, Damla Bingöl and Esra Şahin under the leadership of Emel Tozlu Öztay, Head of Public Relations and Advertising at Istanbul Gelisim University School of Applied Sciences, Research Assistant Nevra Üçler, and Istanbul Gelisim University Vocational School, Head of Marketing and Advertising Department Fulya Beteş. According to the results of the survey, it was found out that the participants had no information about the difficulties of visually impaired individuals.

## **Campaign to support elementary school Pupils**

“Hand in Hand for Education” project was held by the final year students of Istanbul Gelisim University (IGU) Public Relations and Advertising Department.

The project aims to draw attention to the importance of the support given to education. Mehmet Yaren Gümeli Primary School in Başakşehir was visited and a list was prepared by Betül Yavuz, Aykut Diktaş, Ayça Ayaz and Ezgi Gir for the needs of the students. The need box was created to meet the needs in the created list. The students in the project group gave information about the project by distributing brochures on the subject at specific days and hours.

The donations were taken to Mehmet Yaren Gümeli Primary School under the leadership of Emel Tozlu Öztay, Head of the Department of Public Relations and Advertising at Istanbul Gelisim University, with the support of the research assistant Nevra Üçler and the supporters of the university students. The students, who planned a clown show for the students of the kindergarten, went through the classes one by one and made the pupils enter the fun moments. The students in the project group visited the special education class and offered them to the students. Finally collected stationery materials, reading and coloring books, chess set, mind games, brain teasers, toys and other the donations were taken to the library and sent to the school principal and teachers.

The school principal and the teachers expressed their gratitude to Asst. Prof. Emel Tozlu Öztay, Research Assistant Nevra Üçler for their support and to the students in the project group and those who did not spare their support in the project.