Book Launch – Il-Ktieb tal-Etikett u l-Manjieri Tajba

Fondazzjoni Sagħtar within the Malta Union of Teachers is pleased to launch a new publication entitled *Il-Ktieb tal-Etikett u l-Manjieri Tajba*. This book for children is inspired by the need to have etiquette and good manners discussed and taught in schools. The publication has been funded by the National Book Council.

Education Minister Clifton Grima participated in the launch, held at St Joseph Mater Boni Consilii school, Paola, and engaged in discussions with the students, who asked questions and read extracts from the book. He also praised the new publication by Fondazzjoni Sagħtar.

MUT President and Fondazzjoni Sagħtar founder Marco Bonnici explained the principles behind the new book and how it can be used in schools. He stated that the new book shall be distributed freely to all students in Year 6 in Malta and Gozo.

Fondazzjoni Sagħtar thanked Dr Kenneth Vella and all educators and students at Marter Boni Consilii for the book launch held at their school. The Foundation also thanked the management of Fondazzjoni Sagħtar, the researcher, the author, the illustrator, the designer and the printer of the book.

Let us take a look at this new book:

Etiquette is like a set of rules that people adhere to so that society functions properly and everyone in that society feels safe and lives a happy life. Such rules can be compared to traffic lights, since “they guide us through tricky encounters and stop us from crashing into one another” (The British School of Excellence, 2024).

People often remark that students of all ages, children and young adults, are showing a lack of respect, etiquette and good manners in their behaviour nowadays. Unfortunately it seems that such crucial lifeskills are either being ignored or else the message is not getting through. That is why Fondazzjoni Sagħtar, which aims to serve a social and educational function among educators and students in Malta and Gozo, including by generating and publishing educational material, proposed the publication of a children’s book about etiquette and good manners, aptly titled *Il-Ktieb tal-Etikett u l-Manjieri Tajba* (The Book of Etiquette and Good Manners).

Thorough research about etiquette and good manners was conducted by Sergio Grech, who collected a large number of points, suggestions and words of advice for primary students. All the points were later adapted and put together in writing by Chris Giordano, who also categorised the material according to a number of selected themes. After that, Nadine Debattista Briffa painted a set of illustrations for all themes, to make the publication more attractive and engaging for the younger generation. Robert Caruana concluded this publication through his able designs. The printing was carried out by Print It Printing Services.

The selected themes include choosing the proper attire; good behaviour on the bus, on school transport and on the road, in a new place and when meeting new people; invitations and parties; communication and good use of telephones, mobiles, tablets and the internet; good behaviour at home, during meals, in restaurants, cinemas, shops, at school, in the library and during sports activities; and respect for animals.

The book describes how two siblings, Ġanni and Luċija, are always striving to put etiquette and good manners in practice, and gives practical words of advice to help readers apply their best behaviour in a diversity of situations in real life.

Tnedija – *Il-Ktieb tal-Etikett u l-Manjieri Tajba*

Fondazzjoni Sagħtar fi ħdan il-Malta Union of Teachers bi pjaċir tħabbar it-tnedija ta' pubblikazzjoni ġdida bit-titlu *Il-Ktieb tal-Etikett u l-Manjieri Tajba*. Dan il-ktieb għat-tfal hu ispirat mill-ħtieġa li l-etikett u l-manjieri tajba jiġu diskussi u mgħallma fl-iskejjel. Il-pubblikazzjoni ġiet megħjuna mill-Kunsill Nazzjonali tal-Ktieb.

Il-Ministru tal-Edukazzjoni Clifton Grima pparteċipa fit-tnedija, li saret fl-iskola St Joseph Mater Boni Consilii, Raħal Ġdid, u kellu diskussjoni mal-istudenti, li saqsew xi mistoqsijiet u qraw siltiet mill-ktieb. Huwa faħħar ukoll il-pubblikazzjoni l-ġdida ta' Fondazzjoni Sagħtar.

Il-President tal-MUT u l-fundatur ta' Fondazzjoni Sagħtar Marco Bonnici spjega l-prinċipji li sawru l-pubblikazzjoni l-ġdida u spjega kif din tista' tintuża fl-iskejjel. Huwa qal li l-ktieb se jitqassam b'xejn lill-istudenti tas-sitt sena fl-iskejjel kollha ta' Malta u Għawdex.

Fondazzjoni Sagħtar irringrazzjat lil Dr Kenneth vella, l-edukaturi u l-istudenti tal-iskola St Joseph Mater Boni Consilii għat-tnedija li saret fl-iskola tagħhom. Irringrazzjat wkoll lit-tmexxija tal-Fondazzjoni, lir-riċerkatur, l-awtur, l-illustratur, id-disinjatur u l-istampatur tal-ktieb.

Ejjew nagħtu ħarsa lejn dan il-ktieb il-ġdid:

L-etikett huwa bħal sett ta' regoli li n-nies jimxu magħhom biex is-soċjetà tiffunzjona sew u kull membru f'dik is-soċjetà jħossu sikur u jgħix ħajja kuntenta. Dawn ir-regoli nistgħu nqabbluhom mad-dwal tat-traffiku, għax jiggwidawna f'sitwazzjonijiet li jistgħu jkunu kkumplikati u jgħinuna biex ma naħbtux f'xulxin (The British School of Excellence, 2024).

Ħafna spiss jirrimarkaw li llum il-ġurnata l-istudenti ta' kull età, tfal u adolexxenti, qed juru nuqqas ta' rispett, etikett u manjieri tajba fl-imġiba tagħhom. Sfortunatament donnu qed jiġri li ċerti ħiliet bażiċi qed jiġu injorati jew inkella l-messaġġ mhux qed jasal. Għalhekk Fondazzjoni Sagħtar, li għandha l-għan li taqdi funzjoni soċjali u edukattiva fost l-edukaturi u l-istudenti f'Malta u Għawdex, inkluż billi toħloq u tippubblika materjal edukattiv, ipproponiet il-pubblikazzjoni ta' ktieb tat-tfal dwar l-etikett u l-manjieri tajba, appuntu bit-titlu *Il-Ktieb tal-Etikett u l-Manjieri Tajba* (The Book of Etiquette and Good Manners).

Sergio Grech wettaq riċerka metikoluża dwar l-etikett u l-manjieri tajba u ġabar numru kbir ta' punti, suġġerimenti u pariri għat-tfal tal-primarja. Dawn imbagħad ġew adattati għall-kitba minn Chris Giordano, li kkategorizza l-materjal skont numru ta' temi magħżula. Wara dan kollu, Nadine Debattista Briffa pinġiet sett ta' illustrazzjonijiet għat-temi kollha, biex il-pubblikazzjoni tkun aktar attraenti għall-ġenerazzjonijiet iż-żgħar u biex dawn iktar jifhmu s-suġġett u jirrelataw miegħu. Robert Caruana kkonkluda l-pubblikazzjoni permezz tad-disinn abbli tiegħu. L-istampar sar għand il-Print It Printing Services.

It-temi magħżula jinkludu li tagħżel x'se tilbes; imġiba tajba fuq tal-linja, fil-vann tal-iskola u fit-triq, f'post ġdid u meta tiltaqa' ma' xi ħadd l-ewwel darba; inviti u stediniet; il-komunikazzjoni u l-użu tajjeb tat-telefowns, il-mowbajls, it-tablets u l-internet; imġiba tajba fid-dar, waqt l-ikel, fir-restorant, fiċ-ċinema, fil-ħwienet, fl-iskola, fil-librerija u waqt l-attivitajiet sportivi; u r-rispett lejn l-annimali.

Il-ktieb jiddeskrivi kif żewġ aħwa, Ġanni u Luċija, qegħdin dejjem jippruvaw jużaw l-etikett u l-manjieri tajba fil-prattika, u jagħti pariri prattiċi biex jgħin lill-qarrejja jġibu ruħhom bl-aħjar mod possibbli f'diversi sitwazzjonijiet tal-ħajja ta' kuljum.

FONDAZZJONI SAGĦTAR • Malta Union of Teachers, 759, Triq il-Kbira San Ġużepp, il-Ħamrun, HMR1016, Malta
Telephone: +356 21224909 • **Email**: info@saghtar.org.mt