

# Young Reporters for the Environment

## Malta

Newsletter 5

Dear YRE participants,

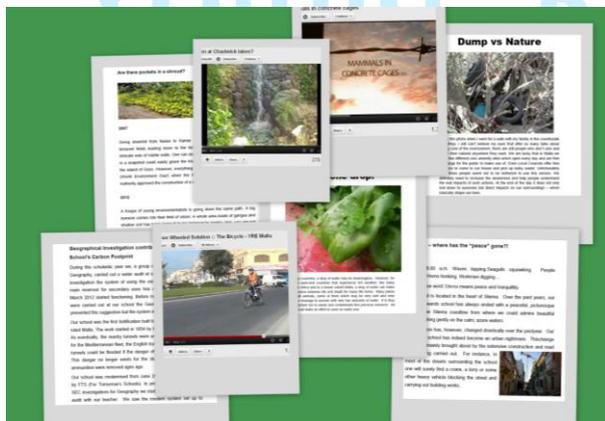
Another scholastic year has come to an end, and I wish to thank all participants for their contribution in raising awareness and giving out a helping hand to the environment.

This year, the local and international YRE competitions were another success story for Malta, with local participants carrying 5 prizes out of the 19 awarded entries. The jury were quite tough and awards were given only when entries were up to standard. Well done to everyone!

The winning entries can be viewed on the local website <http://www.yremalta.org/awards/>.

### MTA Awards

As already mentioned in previous newsletters, this year YRE entries participated automatically in the MTA competition entitled **Let's Conserve Malta's Natural Habitat**. Winners were presented with prizes on World Environment Day, during an activity at Manikata. Heartfelt thanks to the MTA and to Ms Pauline Dingli for the trust they showed in the YRE programme.



## YRE 2012 - 2013

The Awards ceremony for 2011-2012 will take place in October / November. More details will be given later on.

Next scholastic year YRE will see some changes. Due to popular demand, it will be introduced in the Primary, giving a chance to very young reporters to voice their concerns. It will be on a pilot phase here in Malta – so winners will not be sent abroad. Hopefully, the same initiative will be introduced internationally as from 2013 – 2014, but nothing is confirmed as yet.

## **Wrigley's litter less campaign**



One of the campaigns currently going on through the FEE programmes is Wrigley's litter less campaign, where Wrigley company sponsored participating schools to "litter less". This project includes funding and prizes for the projects. During the scholastic year 2012 – 2013, the campaign will enter its

second phase, and YRE Malta has been chosen to participate in the initiative. The international website <http://www.eco-schools-wrigley.org/> provides useful information, but more details will be forwarded in September.

## Collaboration with other competitions

The MTA – YRE experience was a very positive one, and we are trying to extend the initiative to other programmes.

Since schools enter many environment – related competitions on the same theme, it makes sense to direct the entries to various programmes, reaping the benefits of all initiatives. Next year YRE will collaborate with Batterina campaign and Catch the Drop amongst others.



Entries sent to these competitions can be submitted to YRE too, giving more recognition to the children's work.



CATCH **THE** DROP

Special thanks goes to MRRA (Catch the Drop Campaign) and WasteServ (Batterina Campaign) for their availability in working with YRE Malta.

## YRE on the Media

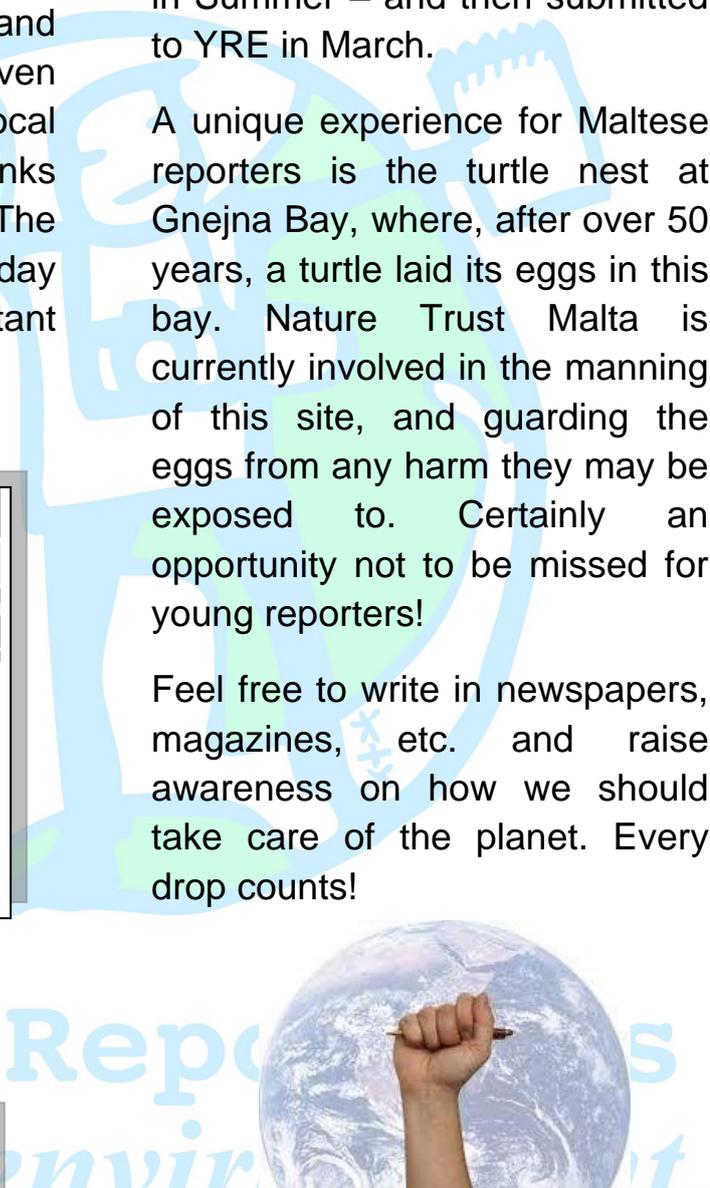
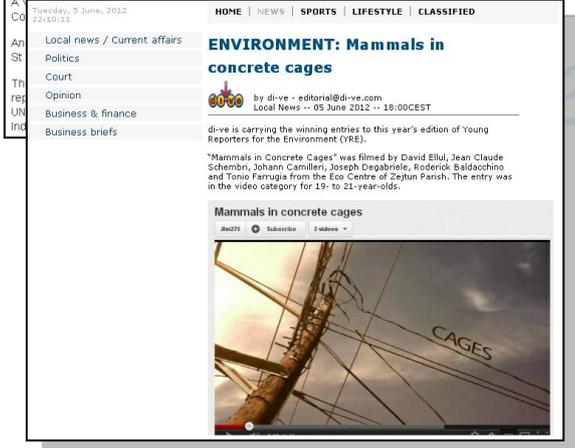
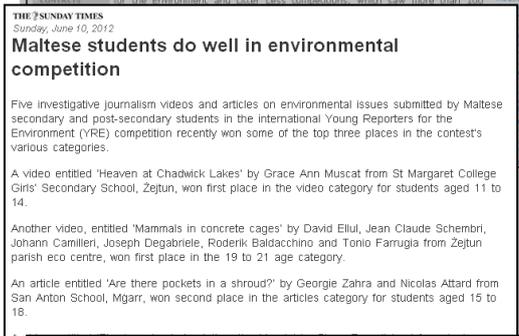
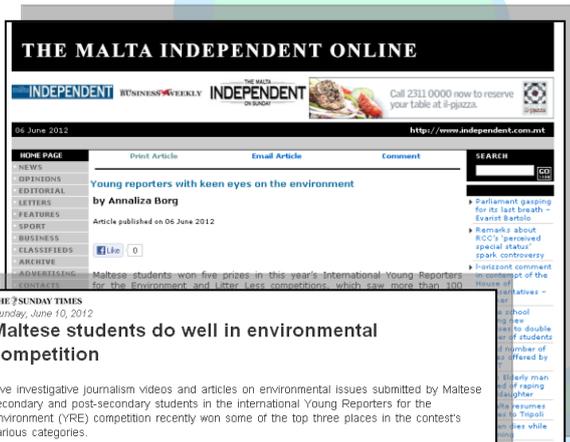
This year's national and international winners were given a very high profile on the local newspapers. Special thanks goes to The Sunday Times, The Malta Independent on Sunday and di-ve.com for their constant support.

## Happy Holidays!

Whilst wishing all students and teachers a restful summer, may I remind you that the environment needs us all the time. Anything worth reporting can be done also in Summer – and then submitted to YRE in March.

A unique experience for Maltese reporters is the turtle nest at Gnejna Bay, where, after over 50 years, a turtle laid its eggs in this bay. Nature Trust Malta is currently involved in the manning of this site, and guarding the eggs from any harm they may be exposed to. Certainly an opportunity not to be missed for young reporters!

Feel free to write in newspapers, magazines, etc. and raise awareness on how we should take care of the planet. Every drop counts!



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