## Talent Point in Action

Athens College, Psychico College Elementary School George Papadimitriou gpap@haef.gr



Psychico College Elementary School, which is a Talent Point School, is an educational institution that strives for excellence. It is our goal to develop educational programs which allow students to discover and develop their talents, both academic and extracurricular. We would like to share our knowledge and experience with other schools in Greece and abroad in an effort develop a school culture where students are given the opportunity to explore and develop their individual talents as well as come in contact with other students their own age who share their talents.

One such program is the Mathematical Concepts Club offered to our 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Grade students who have been assessed as high-ability students in Math. In the club, they have the opportunity to become involved in challenging mathematical activities which are not part of the regular curriculum. Through the club they have the opportunity to develop their interest in mathematics and work with mathematical concepts suited to their skills and abilities.

Another program which we offer at the Elementary School is the Entrepreneurship Club. In this program, all students in select classes participate in creating their own start-up companies. They are responsible for the setting up and running of their company from beginning to end. The products that they produce are marketed and sold to other students at the school. As a lot of people and talents are required during the course of this endeavor, students have multiple opportunities to explore and develop their talents.

Finally, we have developed a transdisciplinary research program for our 5<sup>th</sup> Grade students. The subject areas include mathematics and literature. More specifically, while the students are reading Phillip Barbeau's <u>The Mole</u>, they must find and decode mathematical concepts and problems presented in the story. The goal is for them to collect, analyze and present the concepts they find using statistics. In this way, students are encouraged to make connections between linguistic patterns and mathematics and to deepen their understanding of both.

