



## II BILINGUAL CONTEST FACEPM - RED CROSS

For the second consecutive year Colegio “El Valle” has had the chance to put forward our Primary and first cycle of Secondary Education students to compete in the contest organized by FACEPM (The Federation of Private Schools of Madrid) and by the Red Cross. This year’s topic was “Human Rights, and fortunately the event coincided with many of the activities regarding similar issues that are organized by the school every year around this time and which precede our famous Solidarity Day to which we had the pleasure to invite you to attend last Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November.

The contest consisted of a short presentation in English about the way students perceived the human rights situation in the world. So, did we just pick the most outstanding students in English? By no means. On the contrary, we chose a good group of students in the full sense of the word: responsible, mature, excited about the idea and completely concerned with the issue.

We decided to do three different performances about the human rights situation in the world, based on the Universal Declaration of Human Rights that the students themselves had proposed and created. The contest took place last Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> of November in Colegio Alkor, Alcorcón.

The competition was difficult. Several schools from different parts of Madrid took part in this contest. Eventually, the jury came to the conclusion that one of our groups was the best one. Is that important? Not for me. I think that the most important things were all those things we learned during the rehearsals, the children’s excitement to do their best or their reflection upon such a deep, important issue. However, seeing the students’ faces brimming with happiness while they were carrying the trophy and on the next day when they showed it proudly to the other classes made the nerves and the fatigue shift to the background. Because a smile drawn on a satisfied student’s face, as a famous TV add says, is priceless for a teacher.

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