

## AISV Holiday Charity Week

AISV has a long history of charitable traditions before the holiday season.



One of the oldest ones is **GIVING TREE: Collection of Holiday Gifts for the Vilnius Orphanage kids** which is a very nice opportunity to make the orphanage kids' wishes come true. After all the presents were brought to school by AISV parents and staff, upper school students went to the orphanage and delivered the presents to orphanage kids. While there, we exchanged concerts and had some social time with a little party provided by PSA.



During one of the mornings and afternoons of this special week of AISV we visited the **disabled people handicrafts shops *Mažoji Guboja* and *Mes Esame*** for holiday presents. Buy purchasing presents we supported the disabled people all over Lithuania. In addition, we visited the workshops in *Mažoji Guboja* and greeted the disabled people there who have been always waiting for us to come during this special time.



The third project we have started a couple of years ago was **visiting Paneriai Basic School** which is located in one of the poorest areas of Vilnius where kids had never received any presents for any of the occasions in their lives. Therefore, Lower School Student Council raised funds by organizing a Thanksgiving Bake Sale and Holiday Gram selling at school to prepare little presents for about thirty students at that school. We went there, exchanged performances, had some social time, and presented small gifts to students there. Each time we visit Paneriai school students, we make them very happy and appreciative.



The fourth project was **visiting Antaviliai Old People Care Home**. We brought presents as wished which included the subscription of local newspapers for the library, a camera, a tea-pot, a donated computer with games for the old and holiday snacks, candies and cookies to share. These goods were purchased from the last year's Walk/Run-a-Thon funds. The students also cheered the audience with their performances from our traditional Holiday program *Once On a Housetop*, a Holiday Musical, by J. Jacobson and J. Higgins.

We will continue these nice projects to make people feel needed and happy in the upcoming years as well.



*By Jolita Norkūnaitė, Activities Coordinator*