

2020, Computer Science, Fitzwilliam College

Everyone uses electronic devices, more and more of which are getting smarter every day. But what is the cause? Artificial Intelligence is a major part of a rapidly growing industry. Be it recommendations, image classifications or translations, there is an ever-growing chance of it being done by a computer. However, very few understand these technologies. Personally, I am fascinated by how far this area reached in just a few decades. I have always been interested in the "behind-the-scenes" of the devices we use on a daily basis, which birthed my enthusiasm for Information Technology. 8 years ago, I wrote my first "Hello, World!" program in Pascal. Since then, I have learnt C++, C, Java, JavaScript, Python, Swift and Objective-C. I have watched over 150 hours of online programming courses in topics such as mobile or smart tv application development and rapid game prototyping.

I switched to my Secondary School after 4th grade and am a Milestone Institute student since 2016. I have taken many modules in Mathematics and Computer Science, namely Calculus, Advanced Graph Theory, Robotics Lab I and II, Optimisation and Algorithms. I also contribute to multiple open-source projects. These all helped me to reach the 32nd place in the national round of OKTV programming. With my team, we became international 1st three times in the Bolyai Mathematics Team Competition. I had the invaluable opportunity to work at an IT company in Finland in 2018 and in Hong Kong in 2019. First time, I was a member of the QA team, and was responsible for automating UI tests. This year, I was a part of the Framework & Integration team. I worked on improving the workflow and had other minor tasks as well. I learned how to work efficiently in a team, and experienced how a large company works, among other practical skills. Currently, with a small team I am working on a signage solution for businesses as a personal project. The reason why I like it so much, is that I have a clear vision of everything that is happening to the end product. We are responsible for the deployment itself, including security and data management. We are in control of the source code, and we can only blame ourselves if our automated test suit does not pass. This project teaches us how to maintain production-level software, and how to solve challenges that may arise at any time.

Last year, I co-founded the Milestone Computer Science Society with a friend. I have been the President since then, which entails hosting weekly sessions where we help every member of our community develop their own computer science skills. We try to show them as many aspects of the field as possible to help them find what they like the most. Our main goal is to provide everyone with knowledge that may someday be useful for them even if their main interests differ. I am particularly proud of our members who joined last year, as they have already created their own simple games.

I went to a bilingual Primary School, and thus have studied English for over 11 years. I am also fluent in Bulgarian, know a little bit of Russian and am learning German, too. At school, I have been a member of the Student Council for many years and have developed great organisational skills. Outside of school I enjoy DJing and playing board games.

I am a hard-working person with an open mind. I really enjoy solving puzzles and challenges, and I always try to find a creative solution to them. I love working in teams, I believe that together humans can achieve anything. I am confident that I have the necessary skills and attitude to become a very successful student. I know that studying in the UK would be perfect to help me

achieve my goals as a Software Engineer. It would be the perfect opportunity for me as they have well-established courses in Computer Science to guide students in the right direction.