

### **Project Update: December 2012**

Seminars about speleogenesis of Georgian caves, cave-dwelling animals, paleobiological remains and the necessity for local cave conservation were conducted for public school pupils in the villages of Sveri and Tskhrukveti (Chiatura, Imereti region). During two organised excursions, pupils from each school visited Ortvalaklde and Kudurebisklde caves. Speleological, speleobiological and palaeontological investigation were carried out in the above mentioned caves. School pupils studied modern methodologies used in speleological, speleobiological and paleobiological investigations and participated in cave investigations. Sampled materials were treated in laboratories for species determination of cave-dwelling invertebrates and palynological investigation. Palynological data of all investigated caves modern sediments completely reflect peculiarities of the existed environmental conditions that will be of great significance to future studies of ancient cultural or natural layers preserved in the caves.



Left: Lecture at school of Sveri village. Right: School pupils in Ortvalaklde cave.