



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 07/ 2019-20

4th October 2019

FINDING THE SNOW LINE



Last Monday, our IGCSE 2 class went on a trip to the Kol Tor Lake. On the way to our guest house we stopped by the Burana Tower. The tower was pretty big, however, the staircase to the top was extremely narrow and steep which made the climb up challenging. A funny part of the trip would be when Mr. Jay got anxious when anyone got too close to the edge of the tower.



We then successfully returned to the ground and explored around the remains of the mosque. We looked at some tombstones and visited the museum, and then headed straight to the guest house. The place we were staying at was very cozy and spacious.

Upon entering the house, we put on our 'GUCCI' (literally) flip flops and ate dinner. We played some charades and listened to Mr. Jay and Mr. Slava play their guitars, and then went to sleep.



The next morning, we woke up to a beautiful view, had breakfast and headed out for our hike. Sadly, we did not get to the lake itself because it was snowing up there. Only five people (Gunnar, Riyan, Sean, Alexia and Amina) lead by Mr. Slava made it to the final destination of our hike - a beautiful plateau. We passed through forests and jumped over rivers while observing the beautiful landscape. Once we returned to the house, we had lunch and headed back to Bishkek.



The trip was really fun; we became friends and we finally managed to go on a field trip with almost the whole class. There was no cellular reception so everyone had to talk and no one was sitting on their phones. We would like to thank, Ms. Saikal, Mr. Slava and Mr. Jason for making this trip possible.

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Amina and Alexia, IGCSE2 students

COFFEE WITH COORDINATORS

This week, BIS held two coffee morning catch-ups for our parents.

This was part of our new initiative to provide monthly opportunities for parents to meet coordinators to learn more about the programmes we offer. A chance to have a coffee and a chat with the coordinator leading your child's programme, our aim of these meetings is to cover different topics relevant to the time of year. We also decided to offer this month's session over two consecutive days in order to allow for the delivery and discussion of information in both [English](#) and [Russian](#). If you would like any topics discussed as a focus point for an up-and-coming meeting, please send suggestions to kgandhi@bis.kg

Ms. Krisha, Director of Studies



NEW FACES: MR. GRANT

Hello BIS Community! I am joining BIS as the new music teacher and Head of Performing Arts. After many years in East Asia and Africa, we have now ended up in the middle – Central Asia! I am here with my wife who works for the United Nations, and our two children who are both in MYP. We are loving the beautiful, green Bishkek - being able to walk freely around the city or stop in a cafe, eating out, shopping, running and hiking.

I am very fortunate to have lived and worked as a musician in many different cultural and professional contexts. I am Australian and grew up in Canberra, but I have spent the past two decades overseas. My first stop on this global trek was to visit family in the West Bank, Palestinian Territories, where I accepted a position at the wonderful Palestinian National Conservatory of Music. Since then I have lived in Washington DC, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Kenya, Tanzania, Vietnam, Ethiopia and now in Kyrgyzstan.



I'm very excited to be part of this wonderful BIS community, and I hope to contribute to the great energy and ideas that we share. My goal and passion is to instill a love of music in all my students from Pre School 2 through to DP - whether be it performance, movement, listening, composition or other; I want them to find their own musical "voice" or expression and leave the classroom wanting more. And we have a lot of fun together!

We are now working to continue to build the music program, with more opportunities and new instruments this year, including guitars, ukuleles, xylophones and drums, which BIS has recently acquired. Plans for more concerts and shows are underway - stay tuned for more news!

Mr. Grant, PYP, MYP and DP Music Teacher

TO ALL PARENTS OF MYP FRENCH, SPANISH AND MANDARIN STUDENTS

Now that we have almost completed our first units within French, Spanish and Mandarin, we know that some students may be having second thoughts about the language they chose to study at the beginning of the MYP or since joining the school. With this in mind, we have taken the decision to allow students to switch languages upon completion of the first unit. This would take effect after the summative assessments are complete with the current groups.

Switches would only be done with the student's understanding that they will have missed a full unit of language study which they would have to catch up on. If your child would like to switch languages and is confident that they will be able to catch up on work they have missed since the start of term, please email Ms Esther on ejohnson@bis.kg by **Monday 7th October** letting her know the reasons for the switch and what level/background they have in the language they would like to switch to (to help us with group placement).

Ms. Esther, Language Acquisition Teacher



BIS Snapshot: Learning is fun!





BIS SPORT SCHEDULE

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Football, Girls
16:30-18:00

MONDAY, OCTOBER 7

Basketball, Boys
Varsity
16:30-18:00

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 11

Basketball, Girls
16:30-18:00

FRIDAY - SATURDAY OCTOBER 11-12

BISA football tournament
9.00-18.30

Next week will be a week of preparation for Sports Day. We will practice proper running form, starting, and handover techniques in relays.

In addition, we will practice shot put. First, with a plastic and later with not so heavy shots.

To ensure all safety measures are met, we will learn how to enter the circle, what is a safe distance from the thrower, when is the right time to leave the circle.

3RD ANNUAL BISA FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

Date: 11th and 12th of October

Time: 9:00-18:30

Venue: 26 Masaliev Str. UWIS campus (Cambridge)

Host by: Hope Academy and UWIS

The tournament is open for following teams:

- Varsity Girls (15 and up)
- Varsity Boys (15 and up)
- JV Girls (11-14)
- JV Boys (11-14)

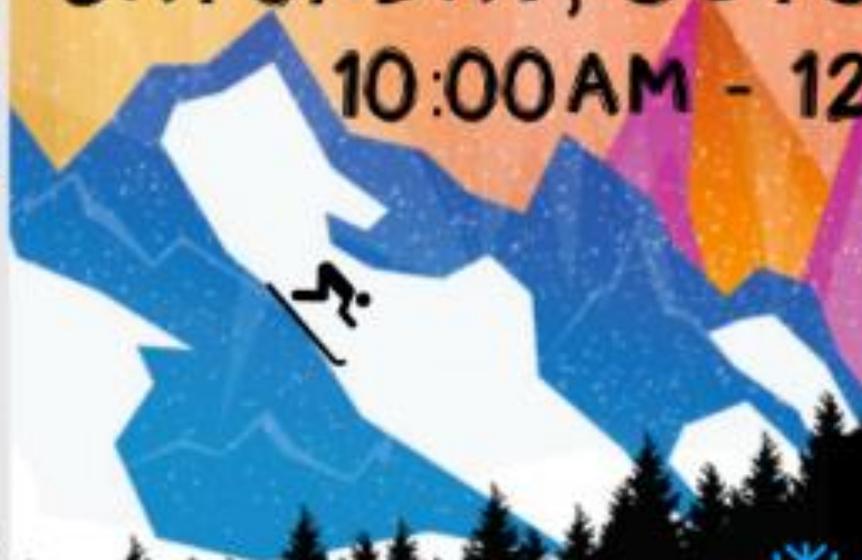
Water station will be available at the field, but students need to bring their own water bottles.

Two lunches are provided and also trophies. Event is open for families (spectators) affiliated with participant schools.

BIS Ski Club invites you on

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5, 2019

10:00AM - 12:00PM



**SELL YOUR GEAR!
BUY USED GEAR!**

**WINTER
GEAR
SALE**



Who: EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

What: A used Winter Sports equipment SALE! Skiing, sledding, hockey, clothing, technical gear, kids and adults!

**When: October 5, 2019,
10AM- 12PM**

Where: BIS Cafe

Questions? Email us HMAGEE@BIS.KG

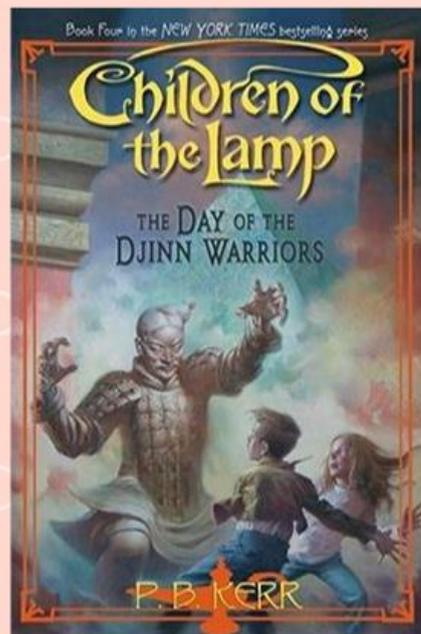
SELLERS:

Ready to clear out that old gear from your closet? Email HMAGEE@BIS.KG to reserve a table to sell your gear! *Table reservations are 500 som. Reserve by Oct 3.*

ENTRANCE FEE:

50 som (per adult)
*All proceeds go to
BIS Ski Club.*

STUDENT CHECKOUTS AT THE LIBRARY



The Day of the Djinn Warriors
(Children of the Lamp #4)
by P.B. Kerr

This is a very interesting story about genies and wishes.

Saikal

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday 5th October, Winter Gear Sale, BIS Café
- Tuesday 15th October, Sports Day, Spartak Stadium
- Wednesday 16th October, Parent Teacher Meetings
- Friday 18th October, UN Day at BIS
- **Monday 21st – Friday 25th October – Autumn/Fall break (No School)**
- Thursday 31st October: Fall Festival/Halloween
- Saturday 2nd November: Teacher In-Service Day

More information about all of these events will be sent to you later, or see <http://www.bis.kg>

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for October 7th – 11th is [Menu A](#). Form Teachers and our Chef are responsible for adjusting this menu to avoid any foods your child cannot eat, according to the information provided to us by you.



PRESCHOOL 1

Preschool 1 friends have had an amazing week of learning numbers through the 'Five Little Monkeys' song while pretending to be a monkey and the 'How many fingers?' song while counting with our fingers. Activities such as selecting the right amount of pompoms and sticking cupcakes on a plate helped us to remember numbers. During morning circle time, we discussed the weather and, in order to better understand rainy weather, we made a rain cloud experiment. For this experiment we used a jar of water, shaving cream



and food coloring. Children made their clouds rain and sang the song 'Rain, rain go away' with every friend's name in the class. Children loved it and asked again and again to make more rain. We completed our "My Face and My Body" inquiry and participated in various activities like making face paper plate puppets, cutting and pasting face parts, making hair and sticking body parts to the picture. Next week, we will start to discuss personal hygiene and taking care of body parts.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Form Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

Within the framework of the unit 'Who We Are', Preschool 2 has started to talk about Family; a time when we can tell and show each other about the most important people in our lives. This is really important for our friends to be able to understand that there are different kinds of families, how relations between family members work, and to see what things families do together. The children of our class were so proud to show family pictures and tell others about their family members on the photos.

Each child had a chance to bring and share a piece of treasure which they believed showed the feeling he or she has about their family. To remember family members, we made family trees locating the old generation on the trunk and ourselves on the tree branches. Another fun activity related to family members was our family member puppet activity which children used in counting activities later. In the second part of the week, we talked about the things we make with families. It appeared that families do so many fun activities such as getting out into nature for picnics, shopping, cooking, playing in the yard, reading books and numerous other activities. A fun-filled week in Preschool 2!



Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Form Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week, in Preschool 3, our friends enjoyed learning all about the letter 'i'. We learned that the letter 'i' is for igloo, iguana and ice. We even created wonderful paintings out of paint frozen into ice cubes.

We also had a fun number hunt in the class where we put the numbers we found in the right sequence.

Finally, we looked at what it takes to be a good friend.

Next week we will learn about the letter 'p' and continue to learn about and develop our sense of number.

Ms. Carmen, Head of Preschool, Preschool 3 Form Teacher

