



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 08/ 2019-20

11th October 2019

IGCSE1 TRIP TO ISSYK KUL



Last week IGCSE1 had a class trip to Issyk-Kul South Shore. We departed from school on Wednesday 2nd of October and returned on the Friday 4th October. The trip itself was very fun and our class had a chance to get to know each other more - especially with the new students that came to our school this year.

We had a 6 hour drive to get to the place. We were staying at a yurt camp which was much better than all of us had expected! When we arrived to the yurt camp, the people there greeted us and they were very nice to us during our stay. After leaving our belongings at our yurts, we headed for lunch which was very delicious. The inside of the yurt where we were eating was spacious and very cozy too. After lunch, we headed to Fairy Tale Canyon which wasn't very far from the camp. At Fairy Tale Canyon, we had a small hike, and were able to admire some truly breathtaking views as well as experience a true sense of adventure. The hike was really fun and sometimes a bit challenging, but





it was nothing compared to what awaited us on the next day. After dinner, we played games inside the big yurt and shortly after that we played hide and seek with the teachers that went with us. Also able to enjoy the beach and the pretty view, we definitely had a lot of fun on the first day and night of our trip.

The next day we went to the Barskoon Valley. The drive was about 30 mins (to get to the place where we started our hike). It took us about 3 hours to get to the top, and as we were going higher and higher, the hike started becoming steeper and steeper, there was a lot of rocks so we had to be super careful going uphill and make sure none of the rocks would fall on the people that were behind us. As we were reaching our destination, the temperature decreased and it was a bit cold up there. Despite the temperatures, we got to see the beautiful mountains on the way there and during our time on the mountain. We also saw three beautiful waterfalls on the journey. Although the hike was tough, we made it to the top and didn't give up on our way there.

After resting for some time, we decided to go down. The way back was a bit harder with all the rocks - making it very dangerous to go down. But we made it safe and sound, took a group photo and left for the camp. After arriving we made a trip to the beach where we enjoyed ourselves, played cards and took beautiful photos. After dinner, we wanted to start a campfire and just chill around great company. We collected some branches for the fire and, with the help of Ms. Hillary, we made a very good fire. The boys went to get some potatoes to burn

them in the fire and cook them ... it actually took a pretty long time to finish cooking them! By the time the potatoes were done, the fire was actually gone. This didn't stop us trying them and they turned out to be very good.

We played different kinds of games and after a few hours went to bed. The last day in Issyk-Kul was very short because it was mostly packing, breakfast and leaving for our return to Bishkek, but even still, we had a great time and we want to thank Mr. Alisher, Ms. Hillary and Mr. Darren for making this trip possible. We hope we get to have more trips like this and enjoy our time together!



Aidan, IGCSE1 student

PRIMARY2 TRIP TO DASMIA CULTURAL CENTER

Last week, the students of P2S and P2A had a joint educational visit to the Dasmia Cultural Center.

During this visit the students had an opportunity to visit the biggest yurt in Kyrgyzstan. This yurt was filled with traditional decorations made from natural materials. The classes also had the opportunity to tour a modern-day yurt that was equipped with a kitchen and bathroom. During the trip, the students ate lunch on the property and played on a playground with model yurts and traditional swings.

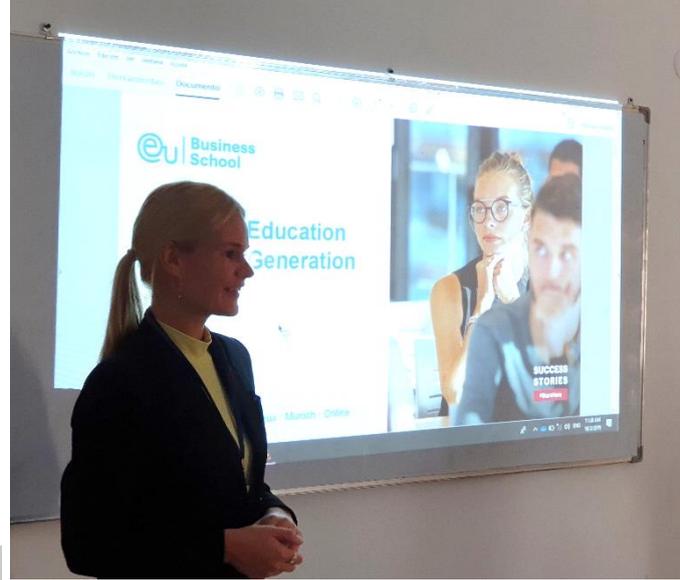
All the students had a wonderful time and were able to see first hand how a home can reflect a local culture. A special thank you to our parent volunteers. The trip would not have been a success without your help.

Ms. Shelby, Primary 2S Homeroom Teacher



MEETINGS WITH UNIVERSITIES' REPRESENTATIVES

Last week was very eventful for High School students, as we hosted three universities' representatives in BIS. On Monday students learned about the new campus at Duke University in Kunshan, China. Mr Davis spoke about distinguished features of Duke Kunshan and shared insights in how to impress Admissions Committee with your application. On Wednesday, a EU Business School representative informed students about three diverse campuses, their unique experiential learning approach and wide variety of programs offered by the EU Business School for those interested in Business.



On Friday we hosted representatives from International Westminster University who spoke about the opportunity to receive British education while remaining in Central Asia.

Attending these presentation gives students valuable first hand information and an opportunity to ask questions, learn more about tertiary education possibilities and get tips on improving their application.

Ms. Anastasia, University and Career Counselor



NEW FACES: MS. AISEDEP

Hello everyone! I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself as the new co-teacher of Preschool 2. My name is Aisedep Syrgakova and I am so happy that I am a part of the friendly and welcoming environment that is BIS.

From a young age, I was interested in learning foreign languages and I studied a few of them! And my interest also involves sharing my knowledge with others too. During my university years, I had a chance to teach English and Turkish as a volunteer in one of the educational centers in Bishkek. To this day, I remember the indescribable moment and excitement that came with teaching a first lesson!

In my career, I have taught mostly to preschool students. The atmosphere in preschool is often noisy and very busy which can appear to be daunting for new teachers but the passion for learning that this age group of children have gives me the power and desire to continue the path of an educator.



Here, at BIS I also teach Kyrgyz language to Preschool 2. In our classes, I like playing interesting games, singing songs and reading books with my students. I am learning a lot of new things from the teachers I have met as well as from my students! I appreciate every minute which I spend with the students in our community, and I am really excited about this year which, I am sure, will be full of shared adventures. Afterall, as one of my preschool students says, "Sharing is caring".

Ms. Aisedep, Preschool 2 Co-teacher

COOKING ECA

BIS Parent Annie Khan is teaching a variety of useful skills to our lower primary kids! From their first few classes they've already learnt to make healthy energy bars, tasty pizza, and delicious cookies!

Check out one of their scrumptious recipes below:

Ingredients: butter 1/3 cup, brown sugar 1/2 cup, honey 1/3 cup, wheat/rice krispies 2 cups, quick oats 2 cups, vanilla extract 1 teaspoon, salt 1/4 teaspoon, M&Ms 1/3 cup, chocolate chips 1/3 cups, fruit candies 1/4 cup, chopped nuts 1/4 cup, sprinkles 1/4 cup.



Method: In one bowl take butter, honey and brown sugar microwave it for 2 minutes. Once melted and the ingredients are combined, keep it to one side. Next, take another bowl and mix the remaining ingredients together. Pour the melted mixture from the first bowl on the top of all the dry mixture and stir well.

Then take a big baking tray and spread all the mixture evenly. Now, keep this baking tray in a refrigerator for 20 minutes until chilled before cutting it into a bar shapes.

Finally, enjoy digging into this healthy, yummy snack!

Ms. Annie Khan, BIS parent

ART LESSON – IBDP1 EXPERIMENTAL DRAWING TECHNIQUES



DRAWING ON LONG STICKS, LISTENING TO JAZZ MUSIC.
A LOT OF FUN!

BIS Snapshot: Little Cooks



BIS CHOOSES RESPECT

This term, Preschool 3 have been inquiring into what makes a valuable friendship and the different characteristics of our friends. Also touching on sentiments of diversity, Primary 2 have been discovering how identity and culture can be reflected through our homes. Similarly, Primary 4 have been acknowledging the importance of celebrating diversity in order to ensure a peaceful global society.

With these units in mind, our Preschool and Primary students will be advocating for the BIS community to choose respect - rather than bullying or negativity - when recognizing differences in each other. Our first call to action will be on Thursday 17th October with an Odd Sock Day - encouraging our young community members to celebrate individuality and allowing them to express themselves by showing how unique everyone is.

Our students have been encouraged to think of further ideas for celebrating and respecting uniqueness which we will continue to incorporate throughout the year.

**OCT
17
2019**

**BIS
ODD
SOCKS
DAY**

**CHOOSING TO
RESPECT
EACH
OTHER'S
DIFFERENCES**

**WEAR ODD SOCKS ON THURSDAY 17TH OCTOBER TO RECEIVE 3
HOUSE POINTS**

UN DAY AT BIS!

This year, UN Day will take place on the last day of this term - **Friday, October 18th**.

All students are more than welcome to dress up in national clothing and gain bonus house points!

Throughout the day, UN members will be coming in to talk to Primary and MYP students about the UN's 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) to give them a glimpse into their work. Preschool will participate in a UN-themed treasure hunt!

The day will end with a parade for Primary, and a Q&A session with Dr. Ojielo, the UN resident coordinator of the Kyrgyz Republic, for MYP, IGCSE and DP students.

Aliya Kerezbekova, Aila Grant and Dastan Ryskulov

UN Day!



18 OCTOBER 2019

**Dress up in your National
Clothes to gain house points!**



BIS SPORT SCHEDULE



3RD ANNUAL BISA SOCCER TOURNAMENT, OCTOBER 11-12 (FRIDAY – SATURDAY)

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

Games Schedule

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 SPORTS DAY, OCTOBER 15 (TUESDAY)

We will have 7 athletic events, five of which are individual and two are relay races in which two girls and two boys compete in the same team. In individual events, boys and girls compete separately.



BISA SOCCER TOURNAMENT

Date:
11th and 12th of
October

Time:
9:00 – 18:30

Venue:
UWIS Campus
(Cambridge)
26, Masaliev Str.

Host by:
Hope Academy and
UWIS

SPORTS DAY

Date:
15th of October

Time:
10:00 – 15:00 (buses are
leaving at 8:30)

Venue:
Spartak Stadium

Sport:
Athletics

Participants:
All secondary students

MEET THE TEACHERS

On Wednesday 16th October from 15:10 - 18:00, BIS will hold parent-teacher meetings for parents of BIS students (Preschool, Primary, MYP, IGCSE, DP). Please click on [this link](#) to schedule a time to meet with your child's teachers.

Please enter your name in a free slot to secure an appointment with a teacher. Each appointment will last for 10 minutes. The sign-up sheet will remain open until 16:00 on Sunday 13th October. Please make sure you arrange all appointments before this date as it will not be possible to do so after this time. Please do not attend the parent-teacher meetings without making an appointment in advance as this disrupts the smooth-running of the evening.

Russian translation will be provided as needed. The school will also provide tea, coffee and biscuits for parents from 15:30 in the café.

Prior to these meetings, you will receive a printed copy of your child's report, which details their progress and achievement for the indicated period. These meetings are an opportunity for you to discuss the information contained in the report in more detail – academic progress, skill development, participation and any steps for future improvement.

If there are no available appointments for a teacher you wish to meet, if you would like to arrange a longer meeting with a teacher or any of the Programme Coordinators, or if you will not be able to attend on the assigned day but would still like to meet your child's teachers, please email relevant Programme Coordinators directly who will assist you in arranging a meeting for another day.

Students will be supervised by BIS staff for the duration of the meetings though ECAs will not be running. Options available for students will include silent reading, outdoor play and a movie (suitable for all ages).

School buses will leave as normal at 16:40. If you wish to pick your child up from school rather than them taking the school bus on this day, please inform the school by emailing info@bis.kg and Aigerim Tilekeeva at atilekeeva@bis.kg.

We look forward to seeing you at next Wednesday's event. If you have any further questions about the meetings, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday 15th October, Sports Day, Spartak Stadium
- Wednesday 16th October, Parent Teacher Meetings
- Thursday 17th October, Preschool and Primary Odd Socks Day
- 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
- Thursday 7th November – Sunday 10th November: Central Asia Soccer Classic (Football Tournament), Almaty
- Friday 8th November: History Day – Public Holiday
- Saturday 16th November: BIS Annual Debate Tournament
- Wednesday 23rd November: Friendsgiving Dinner – Parents Association

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 14th – 18th is [Menu B](#). 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

This week, Preschool 1 friends had a various discussions and participated in many activities on how to keep our hands and body clean. Personal hygiene and body care was the focus of the week. To understand the importance of washing hands and taking a



bath, we took our toys outside to play with us and when we came back to the classroom we observed their body with magnifying glasses. We found a lot of germs on them and then we practiced washing them properly with soap. To make the concept of germs more tangible, we conducted an experiment where children put a significant amount of glitter on their hands before touching different objects in the class; students saw how microbes spread and can make us sick. Later in the week, we enjoyed singing the, 'This is the way we wash our hands' song while pretending to keep our body clean. In Math, we learned about the star shape and made some wonderfully shiny stars!

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Form Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This was another week for talking about our families. Every lesson,, we started by looking at our family photos and discussing them. Now, we know how many grandfathers and grandmothers each friend has and have almost learned their names. To remember family members, we sang family songs using our fingers. For our Kyrgyz lessons, we created a big tree with real leaves and stick family faces on them. One of the most engaging activities of the week was making our mother's and father's faces. The children were doing it in unique ways; some were making fluffy hair, others different size eyes, and even one group of parents was made without noses! Next week we are going to talk about family food – a topic we are all excited about!



Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Form Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

Our Preschool 3 friends had an exciting week filled with letter 'p' activities. We learned that the letter 'p' makes a popping sound just like popcorn! We even had a chance to eat some popcorn!

We also sang some beautiful songs about friendship and read the book - Animal Boogie.

Next week, we will learn about the letter 'n' and engage in role play to show what is a good friend.

Ms. Carmen, Preschool 3 Form Teacher

