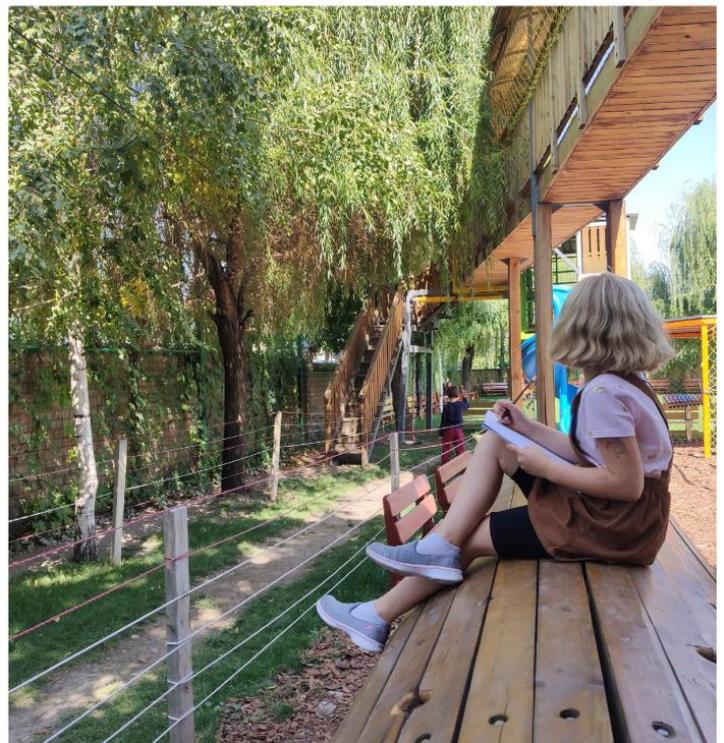
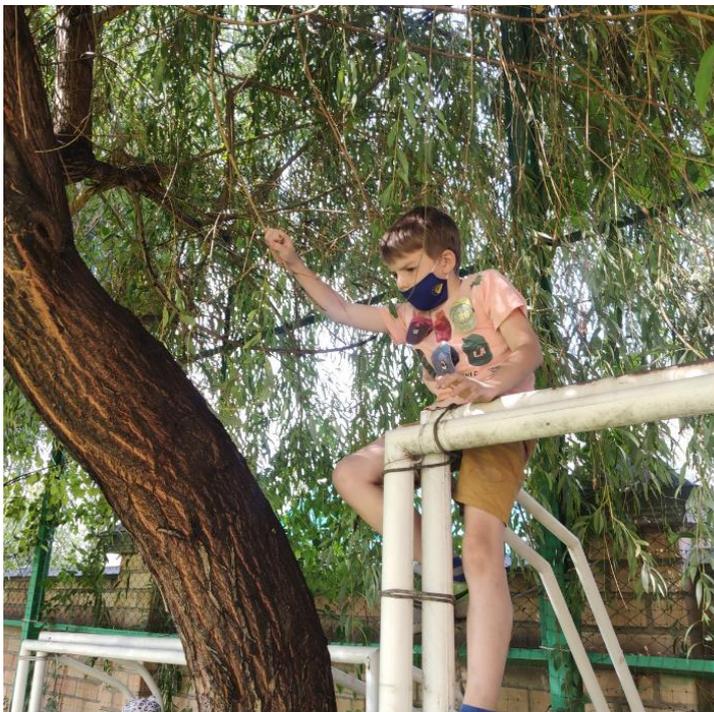




## EXPLORING MATERIALS AND STRUCTURES

Our students began exploring their understanding of measurement and materials to make connections to the structures on our campus. They quickly noted different materials and why they were used, and connected that certain materials were chosen to keep them safe. It was a pleasure to see their concentration and real-life application of mathematical concepts relevant to their experience.



## LEARNING ABOUT ANIMAL STRUCTURES

This week we have been inquiring about the structures that animals make and their reasons for making the structures. We studied honeycombs, bird nests, spider webs and beaver dams. On Wednesday, students went outside to try and make some of these animal structures. These are some of the students' reflections about the process:

*I was trying to make a beaver dam. The easy part was to get the rocks, leaves and the sticks. It was so hard to try and make the water not go through all of the holes in the sticks. I made it differently than a beaver does, and it is harder for a beaver because a beaver must first go find a tree and bite it with his teeth. I learned that beavers have iron in their teeth.*

Ailin



*Yesterday I made a nest with Ruslan with wood and glue and grass.*

Lemar

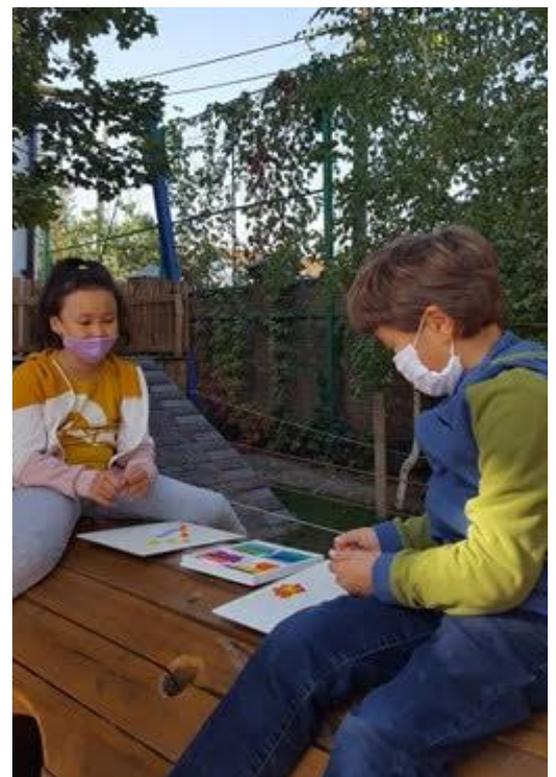
*I made a honeycomb yesterday. It was a little bit easy and a little bit difficult. It was difficult to make the hexagon shape with modeling clay. It is different from a honeycomb that a bee makes because I made it not from the honey, just from modeling clay.*

Selim



*I made a spider web yesterday. I used string to make it and it was not so easy to make the knots and tie it around and around. My web is different because I did not use spider silk.*

Umair



Our Kindergarten students were busy this week learning new letter sounds, exploring shapes and fine-motor skills with Geoboards and chain links, and playing with new classmates. This week we also learned about germs and did a science experiment about washing hands.

We did some taste tests too - was is sweet, salty, or sour? And we celebrated Asia Day.



During art class with Ms Anna our students loved creating self-portraits out of plasticine.



## OUR STUDENTS ARE DRAWING PICTURES FOR THE ASIA DAY



## NEW FACES AT BIS: MS REBECCA

LOOK AT THOSE MOUNTAINS! I've said or thought that at least once a day in the month I've been in Bishkek, and I don't expect complacency to set in anytime soon.

Growing up on the east coast of England, with the North Sea on my doorstep, I took the view of an endless horizon for granted. As an adult, vast vistas have become something I've cherished. Whilst I never thought I'd live as far from the coast as Kyrgyzstan is, the draw of the view from up in the mountains was enough to make me take the leap.

From the students and the parents, to my colleagues and the management, the BIS community has given me a wonderfully warm welcome. While working remotely is not what most of us would choose, I'm proud to say we're making it work. Getting to know students online certainly isn't the easiest, but I've been lucky to meet about half of my P6 class in person at our weekly ECA - it's been great to get together, to run and laugh and to start work building our classroom community. Go team P6!

I first left the UK almost 20 years ago and since then my travels have taken me across much of Southeast Asia, Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Montenegro and Spain and now I'm excited to be embarking on my first experience in Central Asia. I love learning about new cultures and find it fascinating finding similarities and differences with my own. I'm excited by all that Kyrgyzstan has to offer: the food, traditions, dances, sports, and just look at those mountains!



Ms. Rebecca, Primary 6R Homeroom Teacher

## SUPPORTING LANGUAGE LEARNING WITH A TOUCH OF CULTURE

As someone who has always enjoyed but struggled with learning languages, I have found that learning to communicate in a different tongue goes beyond memorizing words and basic grammar rules. Just because you know how to say 'ice' and 'cream' in Spanish, it doesn't mean you'll be able to order a refreshing gelato on a hot day in Madrid! Understanding culture provides a local context to languages; it often helps add meaning to new words.

In the PYP, we teach English, Russian, Kyrgyz, Spanish, French and Mandarin. Whilst we aren't able to take field trips to English, Spanish, French or Mandarin speaking countries, we do aim to provide students with an all-rounded language learning experience. Over the past week, Grade 1 Advance's Sasha has been learning his Mandarin numbers. Whilst we are proud of his linguistic development - he can now read, write, understand and say the numbers 0-99 in Mandarin - Sasha has also been practicing water calligraphy! This has been a popular practice in China for decades and, on warm spring, summer and autumn days, people can be found in parks and streets walking around with long foam brushes and a pale of water, writing beautiful poems on the ground!



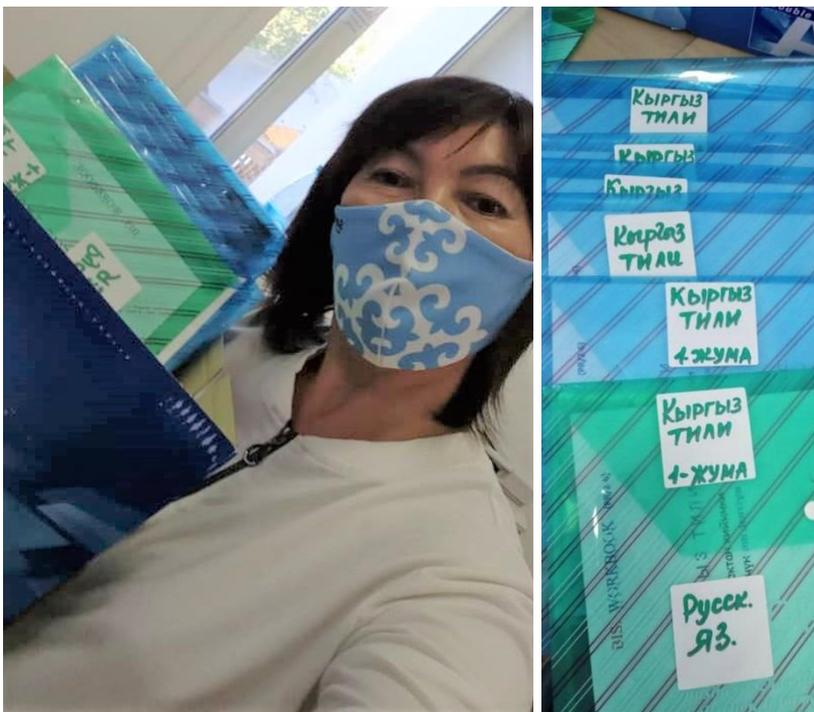
This is not only an eco-friendly way to work on Chinese character practice at school but it has also allowed Sasha to consider the idea of structures (something the class are inquiring into as a whole) from a linguistic perspective! We have learned that the structures of characters in Mandarin Chinese start from the top to the bottom and then from left to right!

**Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies and Life-Long Language Learner!**

## AFTER-SCHOOL RUSSIAN AND KYRGYZ IS STILL ON THE MENU FOR P2 TO P6!

This week has seen the start of our additional Russian and Kyrgyz provision for students from P2 to P6 and, as with many things this year, our teachers needed to get creative to make this happen... and, in true BIS style, they certainly haven't let the restrictions get in their way!

Additional Russian and Kyrgyz classes are usually offered after ECA time each day, to allow local students to meet the required number of language hours for the Kyrgyz National Curriculum, and are taught by some of our devoted Russian and Kyrgyz teachers. Because these lessons couldn't happen like they normally would this year, the 2020-2021 after-school Russian and Kyrgyz team, Ms Emima (Russian language) and Ms Nazgul S (Kyrgyz language) came up with a new system.



They have lovingly devised workbooks with the necessary content for Russian and Kyrgyz languages, and each week will be giving their students new tasks in personalised folders, which parents can come to pick up at any time from our new reception at school. Parents can then drop the completed work back to school, ready for Ms Nazgul and Ms Emima to check and see their progress. We loved the solution that Ms Nazgul and Ms Emima came up with, meaning students can continue their progress in Kyrgyz and/or Russian, and all away from a computer screen! The Kyrgyz workbook even includes an owl friend, who is nearby each of the tasks - even without a teacher nearby, our students are never alone!

We would like to thank the parents who are supporting their children with additional language study in this way, whether by picking up or dropping off the work, or helping them as they complete the tasks. If you missed my email about this opportunity for your child to do extra Russian and/or Kyrgyz, please let me know by contacting me on [ejohnson@bis.kg](mailto:ejohnson@bis.kg), and I would be happy to tell you more about how your child could benefit.

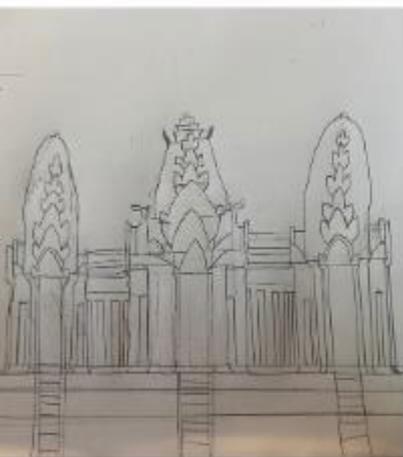
**Esther Johnson, Head of Language Acquisition, Spanish Teacher**

## PAWS FOR PARENTS



Further to the information provided in last week's *Voices*, Krisha Gandhi and Darren Simpson will be holding an information session on Wednesday 30 September at 16:45. This will be an opportunity to gain some more information about the programme, and hopefully to answer any questions you may have. Please access the session through this Zoom [link](#).

# BIS Snapshot: Asia Day Drawings



## OUTDOOR SPORTS DAY – FRIDAY 25<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER



The Outdoor Sports Day for House Sports is on **September 25 at Spartak Stadium for students from Primary 5 up to DP2.**

**Remote learning classes on Friday 25<sup>th</sup> will be provided for the first two periods only, finishing at 9:30 am, for all classes from Primary 5 up to DP2.**

**At 9:30, students should travel to Spartak Stadium themselves (or with parents). Drop off time: at 10:00 and pick up time: at 14:30.** BIS will provide snack and picnic lunch at the stadium.

Track & field events are:

- **Running** (100, 400 and 800)
- **Jumping** (Long jump)
- **Throwing** (Shot put)
- **Relay** (4 x100 mixed relay)

This event will follow the COVID-19 Protocol, all sports equipment will be sanitized before use and students will be instructed to keep social distance. In each race we will have an empty lane between students.

Snacks and lunch are provided. However, **all students must bring their own water bottle.** For this event, students should ensure they have:

- Face masks (2)
- Appropriate sports clothing and shoes
- Water bottle (water will be available from dispensers)
- Cap if sunny, or warm jacket if cooler
- Any medication they may need to have with them

**Parental approval is required to attend. Please complete the **consent form** and send to [info@bis.kg](mailto:info@bis.kg) by Wednesday 25<sup>th</sup> September.**

If you would like to be a **parent volunteer** for the event, contact [zjovetic@bis.kg](mailto:zjovetic@bis.kg)

Parents can also join as **spectators**. One part of the stands will be designated just for parents, in socially distanced seating. Everyone in the stadium must wear a mask, if not competing in an event at the time.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

**Zeljko Jovetic, Head of Physical Education, Athletics Director**



# BIS Writing Center

## Request Help from the Writing Center

**Students:** request feedback on a piece of writing by clicking below.

**Teachers:** assign a student or your whole class to get feedback from the writing center.  
Then send us information about your assignment by clicking below.

Students

Teachers

Write.



Submit to Writing  
Center.

Get feedback.



Win.

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday 25<sup>th</sup> September: Outdoor Sports Day
- Wednesday 14<sup>th</sup> October: Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Friday 16<sup>th</sup> October: UN Day at BIS
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> October: MUN at BIS
- 19<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October: Autumn/Fall Break

## LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for September 21<sup>st</sup> – 25<sup>th</sup> 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

This week, Preschool 1 friends continued learning about “Me and my family”. We explored what we do together with our family members and how we learn and grow with the care of our families and parents. We discovered more about the family relationship through the “Mama and Me” book which illustrated how baby animals learn and grow with the care of mummies. Together, we made a handprint flower with sticks and practiced our cutting skills while doing family activities artwork. We also had fun creating a house out of cardboard boxes and painting it with different paints. In Math, we looked at the circle shape and made a scavenger hunt for circle objects in the classroom. On Friday, we had our Show and Tell time and our friends shared their family photos and introduced their family members. After we hung up them on our Family Tree. Next week, we will start to talk about our face and body.

**Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher**



## PRESCHOOL 2

This was the last week Preschool 2 group continued talking about our body. We decided to go deeper and investigated entire organs each of which has its own role to contribute to the overall body functioning properly. On Monday, we looked at the picture of a skeleton and saw that in all parts of the body there are bones. The skeleton looked like the frame for muscles and our entire organs. After looking at the skeleton, our friends made their own skeleton out of paper. The next day we talked about the brain. It appeared that the brain is the most important organ; being our control center, it gives commands to the whole body, it helps us speak, it is our memory storage and sensory perception center. Our friends had a lot of fun when we were creating brain hats including pictures of things they think about for instance family, food, books and toys. On Thursday, we discussed lungs. With the help of our lungs which look like 2 sponges and are located in chest cavity, our body is provided with the vital oxygen. To understand better how it works, we made a lung model using straws and plastic gloves. For the circle time activities, we played games learning about colors and shapes.

**Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher**



### PRESCHOOL 3

This week, our preschool friends learned about the letter "c". We practiced our letter "c" writing skills, we discovered that the letter "c" is a consonant and we also recapped previously learned letters "a" and "b" by sorting objects that start with the letters "a", "b" or "c". We also learned about shapes and we used these shapes to make houses and trees.

Finally, we enjoyed arts by painting with Dr Anna and learning some new dance moves from the new dance teacher Ms Aliman.

Next week we will learn about the letter "d", more shapes and expand our knowledge of colors.

**Ms. Carmen, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher, Head of Preschool**

