



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 5 / 2020-21

25th September 2020

ASIA DAY 2020

One of our favourite school events of the year is Asia Day when all students and teachers are encouraged to celebrate the continent of Asia by wearing continental costumes and participating in an array of activities. Asia Day 2020 took place last Friday. Only students up to Grade 1 could participate physically due to the COVID-19 restrictions. Despite this, we had amazing day with performances on the stage as well as a special Asia Day menu.





Outdoor Math class with Ms. Shannon and Mr. David ... with a rat!



Through exploring and applying our understanding of measurement inside and outside children have been able to apply higher order thinking with measuring challenges in centimeters and meters. They have also applied this conceptual understanding playing with blocks and other toys by making 2-dimensional shapes and finding its perimeter. Some children are able to convert between meters and centimeters, and others are still learning this relationship. We also stressed the importance of “units” when discussing numbers, especially if we are trying to build something not using the correct unit Can and Ali said “we don’t know what they mean, centimeters, babies, rulers...the number could be anything!





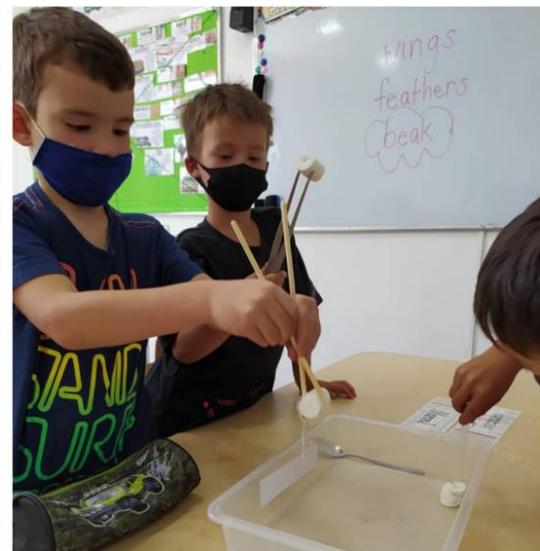
The Kindergarten Friends had a busy week full of learning, playing, and exploring our world.



In Art Class, students worked on creating Asia Day decorations!



The Grade 1 students have been investigating animal adaptations. In this experiment, the students are learning how a bird's beak helps it to live and survive in its environment.



NEW FACES AT BIS: MR AMITH

Like many of the teachers at BIS, it was a combined passion for both teaching and exploring new cultures that led me here. My first experience in Kyrgyzstan was actually 4 years ago as a lone backpacker. I made the journey from Istanbul to Bishkek on a whim, knowing nothing about the geography, culture, or language of Kyrgyzstan or Central Asia. Impressed by the friendliness of the local people and the beautiful scenery, and imbued with the desire to live in an ex-Soviet Republic, I resolved to return one day.

An interest in linguistics and teaching languages as well as working with people from other cultures led me to a career in teaching soon after my trip to Central Asia. Prior to working in Central Asia, I worked at schools and universities in Vietnam, developing my skills as an English teacher. My prior experience in Central Asia and my desire for somewhere a bit calmer, a bit greener, and a bit colder ultimately led me to Kyrgyzstan and BIS.

Now that I'm here, I spend a great deal of time writing in cafes, visiting many of Bishkek's parks, and attempting to speak Russian. My abject butchery of this beautiful language has led to many strange and often hilarious incidents as I've adjusted to living in Bishkek. Despite this barrier, the people of Bishkek have been nothing but welcoming and helpful.

Furthermore, despite being in a foreign land, BIS has been a wonderful anchor for me thus far. I am consistently impressed by the experience and talent of my colleagues and the dedication of my students. In my short time here, I've already had some memorable teaching experiences with the lovely students of BIS and I sincerely hope that one day I will be able to meet my students in person.



Mr. Amith, English & English Language Acquisition Teacher

CONGRATULATIONS TO

THE CPR HEROES!



Getting over the hill and past the midway point in term one has taken a massive effort from everyone in the BIS community, so a big well done should go to absolutely everyone! Now that we have established a degree of normality, it is important that we don't forget to recognise those students who have been extra caring, principled and reflective, whether in school or at home.

David (P3), **Kani** (P5), **Albena** (P6) and **Abai** (P6) were all recognized by their teachers this week. In their own individual ways, each of these PYP students think about others and act on this caring nature. Thank you for being so thoughtful with your words and actions!

Amir (MYP1) has shown care by translating complex English concepts into Russian for his classmates.

Metee (MYP3) has been nominated by a number of teachers for his principled attendance of classes despite the time difference, and for reflecting on his work by asking questions and using feedback.

In IGCSE, **Casper** has been caring in helping out his classmates, principled in his participation of all aspects of school life despite being in Austria, and has reflected on the remote learning experience and has actively offered suggestions on ways the experience could be improved.

Both **Geert** and **Fernanda Ormel** have been nominated for their consistent application and attendance, and **Erdem** in DP1 has likewise shown a caring and principled approach to his studies.

There is no Middle and High School assembly this week due to our annual Sports Day at Spartak Stadium, which I'm confident will be a great day for all involved. That means there is a whole extra week to work towards a CPR award in next Friday's assembly, go for it!

HOUSE COMPETITION – CARING FOR BOORU



It seems like winter will soon be upon us as the temperature starts to drop and people spend even more time indoors. Some families in the Bishkek area may need a little extra help at this time of year, and so the school is once again teaming up with Booru Care to support those in greater need. The school will be collecting clothes, shoes and toys in boxes

based in the outside reception office (to the right of the sliding doors as you walk in), so please drop off any items that you can spare. As an added incentive, **10 house points** will be awarded **for every item donated**, so be sure to put your donations in the box for your house! **100 points will be awarded to the house with the most donations**, so let's make an extra effort to help out our wider community!



Phoenixes



PIRANHAS



SNOW LEOPARDS

Mr. Darren, Head of Student Welfare

BIS Snapshot: Asia Day 2020



HOT OFF THE PRESS – SPORTS DAY

On Friday, 25th September our students from Middle and High School competed for their team in our Annual Outdoor Sports Day. There was running, jumping, throwing, relay and a lot of fun!

The competition results and more photos will be shared in our next Voices.



LIBRARY BOOKS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP

Parents and students can request books from the library for pick-up from the outside reception.

Visit [online catalog](#) and search for items you wish to request (you can borrow up to 3 books at a time).

Send your requests to library@bis.kg with the book title(s) you want to borrow.

Items may only be picked up during working hours from Monday to Friday between 7.45 am and 5 pm.

When you come to pick up your materials, you must wear a face mask and follow the school's Covid Protocol.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Wednesday 14th October: Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Friday 16th October: UN Day at BIS
- Saturday 17th October: MUN at BIS
- 19th – 23rd October: Autumn/Fall Break

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for September 28th – October 2nd 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

Preschool 1 friends have spent this week inquiring into 'My face and my body. We took part in various discussions and activities to extend our knowledge of body parts. We traced our body on paper, painted it and designed our faces. It was fun for us to make our eyes, eyebrows, nose and mouth. Our friends enjoyed singing the 'Head, shoulders, knees and toes' song while pointing at the parts of their body. In Math, we learned the number 2 and discovered that we have 2 eyes, 2 ears, 2 hands, 2 legs and 2 feet. We also decorated our face with play dough where we had to think about making 2 eyes, 1 nose and 1 mouth. Together, we measured ourselves to see how tall we are and observed that some friends are taller and some are shorter. We also made our unique handprints on salt dough which we made from salt, flour and water. Making salt dough was an exciting experience and we enjoyed feeling the ingredients. Our favorite book this week was "Peekaboo, Blueberry!" as we searched for Blueberry's eyes, nose, mouth, toes, ears and even for Blueberry himself. Each friend in our class was happy to have a turn to lift the flap and play a fun round of peekaboo with the mischievous bunny and his mouse friends.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week Preschool 2 has been talking about how the body grows and changes. At the beginning of the week, we looked at our baby photos and compared these to nowadays. The children were so excited to show themselves when they were little. We listened to some nice stories about changes and asked students, 'Why do we change?' Focusing on growing taller, our friends gave us some answers like "I grew because I like to eat fruits" and "I grew because I eat food at home". Our bodies grow because we eat food and drink water. Food is like building material for the body, and the quality of food is vital. To let children understand which food products are healthy choices and which are not worth eating, we made an activity where together we discussed and sorted everyday food products. Following a collaborative discussion and explanation we assigned sweets, cake, hamburger, fizzy drinks to the category 'Sometimes Food' and products such as fruits, vegetables, soup, rice, meat and fish to 'Healthy Food'. On Friday, the friends worked on the project "How I have changed" where they compared food habits from their past and now. For our math lessons this week, we learned the number 1 and made a cool art project where children were covering number one with millet and rice. For our Kyrgyz lesson, we were learning colors and playing fun games!

Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

Our Preschool 3 friends had an amazing week. We learned all about the letter 'd'; we created fun letter 'd' art and learned how to write the letter 'd'. Our friends also made their own salt dough this week and created hearts out of the dough to symbolize the love we have for our friends. We also looked at colors and we learned that we can take different colors and mix them together to create a brand-new color.

Next week we will be looking at the letter 'e', continuing to look at colors and shapes and will be learning about the numbers 11 and 12.

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

