



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 12 / 2020-21

20th November 2020

PRIMARY 2 FIELD TRIP TO OLOLO ART STUDIO

Last Friday, P2 went to the Ololo Art Studio. During their visit, the class learned how to draw a snow leopard and painted their drawings. The class also got to play a few beats on some Japanese drums. The class had a wonderful time learning about cultural art.

Ms. Shelby, Primary 2 Homeroom Teacher



CONGRATULATIONS TO

THE CPR HEROES!



Incredibly, we've already reached the halfway point in this term! The sharp change in the weather over the past week tells us that winter has arrived, and as we begin to look ahead to all the festivities that this season brings we have an equal opportunity to reflect on all of the good things that our students have been doing this week in school.

In Early Years, **Yuvaan** has been very principled by making sure that he has taken part in all of his class activities. In Primary School, **Alisha** and **Kamila** were both recognised for the way they treat others around them with respect, and for owning up to errors and learning from mistakes. Jumping to the MYP, **Ruslan** has brought a positive attitude to every class by actively participating while also helping out his classmates. **Djavid** has also been caring and helpful by offering to help out with tidying up around the school.

Moving into IGCSE, **Elliott** and **Bruno** have both been making a considerable effort in Spanish lessons, working hard, participating consistently and trying their best to make progress. While in the DP, **Erdem** has been very principled by ensuring as far as he can that online learners enjoy access to subject lessons by communicating with his teachers when things have not been heard or lost due to internet issues.

Finally, **Paul** may not have known that a teacher saw him do this, but he took time to stop and help one of the lower primary students to put her snow boots on when they were having difficulty. Paul stopped to help someone in need, showing care for a younger member of the community and allowing them to go and enjoy the snow more quickly. Very natural and worthy of celebration. Well done, Paul!

Just like the days, the CPR list is a bit shorter this week. I want to challenge our students to reverse the winter trend by continuing in their warm and caring actions next week so that we have more to celebrate as the days grow colder!

Mr. Darren, Head of Student Welfare

PYP CPR HEROES AND GALAXY GO GETTERS



HOW CAN WE THINK OF OTHERS DURING THE HOLIDAYS?

The primary student council has only had two meetings so far, but one thing is for sure: these children have come ready to work hard, share their big ideas respectfully, and be leaders in ways that live out the mission and vision of BIS!

In the first meeting, Student Counselors decided that for this holiday season leading up to winter break, they wanted to make the celebration really meaningful for our BIS primary school as well as others in our community who may not be as fortunate. After discussing, the counselors came to the conclusion that we wanted to care for the environment, not be wasteful, be thoughtful of those who may not have time or money to purchase a gift, and we wanted to think of other children beyond our school who may not get anything during this season.



In their own words:

"We want to think of the impact on our environment even during the holidays." – Primary Student Council

"I have so many toys I don't use anymore; someone else could have them!" – Ange, P3

"I don't really need more stuff." – Can, P3

"I don't know that we need to buy new things,"
– Nikita, P4

"We don't really need more toys, others would be grateful even to have our old toys donated."
– Dasha, P6

"What if we gave things we don't need to an adoption center?" – Kani, P5

"It's better to make a present yourself because it's from your heart." – Ayn, P3

They were enthusiastic about planning and organizing a Secret Santa for each primary homeroom where we will make sustainable gifts using mostly recycled materials to create something for another Secret Santa student. Starting November 23rd, we will collect cleaned



recycled materials in the cafeteria, and collect for a donation drive for children of need for:

1. clean toys in good condition that aren't being used at home
2. clothes or shoes they don't use or fit in good condition.

In the second week of December, homeroom classes will be given time to make their Secret Santa's a gift after having time to think about the individual they received from their class's random draw. The following week, holiday helpers will hand out the Secret Santa gifts as we close our winter holiday celebration before winter break.



It has been a pleasure to see the Student Council displaying traits of the Learner Profile of being reflective, thinkers, caring, and risk-takers. They are taking meaningful action to create opportunities that support our BIS community in understanding that this holiday season isn't all about getting and receiving, but is a time when we can reflect on what really matters to us and think of what we can do as individuals for our community.

Ms. Moni, Primary 3M Homeroom Teacher

CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY

Our school community has been collecting clothes and toys to donate to Booru Care - a local organisation that distributes items to individuals and families in need in the Bishkek area. Today, Maksat from Booru Care gratefully received the items we have collected from our student volunteers. Booru Care is an excellent organisation that carries out extremely important work in bringing joy and support to those who need it most. This collection is the latest collaboration between Booru Care and BIS, and I would encourage anyone who feels that they can make a contribution to reach out to them directly. Thank you to everyone who donated, and I am hopeful that we can continue to extend our caring actions out into the wider community.



WONDERFUL WEEK IN PRIMARY 1



This week in P1 we learned new songs, worked on our "restaurant" in the drama centre and used standard measurements in Math. We also had so much fun playing in the snow!!



NEW FACES AT BIS: MS CLAIRE

Hello BIS community.

My name is Claire Berger and I joined BIS as a History teacher in August of this year. I am originally from Houston, Texas, USA. From an early age, I have been pulled away by a desire to learn more about the world. I studied International Affairs, an educational path that took me to Italy, the UK, Russia, China, and a few dozen places in between. I've been lucky to have many different work experiences; I've presented analysis of nuclear negotiations to the US government, tried to figure out how to get ships of industrial material into port as laws changed around me, and trained political activists to deal with harassment. But after working varied jobs in the public, private, and non-profit sectors, I decided that education was where I belonged. I began my teaching career in South Korea and have since taught in the US as well.

I arrived in Bishkek in September, just in time for a beautiful autumn. I have enjoyed exploring the city and many other parts of Kyrgyzstan in my free time. My DP1 students generously created a guide to their favorite places in and around Bishkek to help me get settled. Not only was this very kind and welcoming, it has been very useful! They introduced me to some of my new favorite restaurants.

One of my favorite things about BIS is the passion students have for learning. For every passionate interest I hold, I have found at least one student who shares my excitement and wants to talk about it. Another one of my favorite things about BIS is the opportunity I have to be part of the school community outside of the classes I teach. Though I teach only high school and MYP3, I have the privilege of knowing many primary and middle school students through ECAs and events. Playing games with the Table Tennis ECA and hearing Creative Writing's wild stories are often among the highlights of my week!

As a history nerd, the year 2020 has been unceasingly interesting to me. There are very few moments in history where the entire globe faces the same challenge at the same time. Experiencing the zest for learning, appreciation of community, and solidarity that this crisis has awoken in my students is a great source of hope in this difficult time. I look forward to what the rest of the school year holds!

Ms. Claire, Individuals & Societies and History Teacher, DP1 Form Teacher



DIPLOMA PROGRAMME EVALUATION VIA ZOOM!

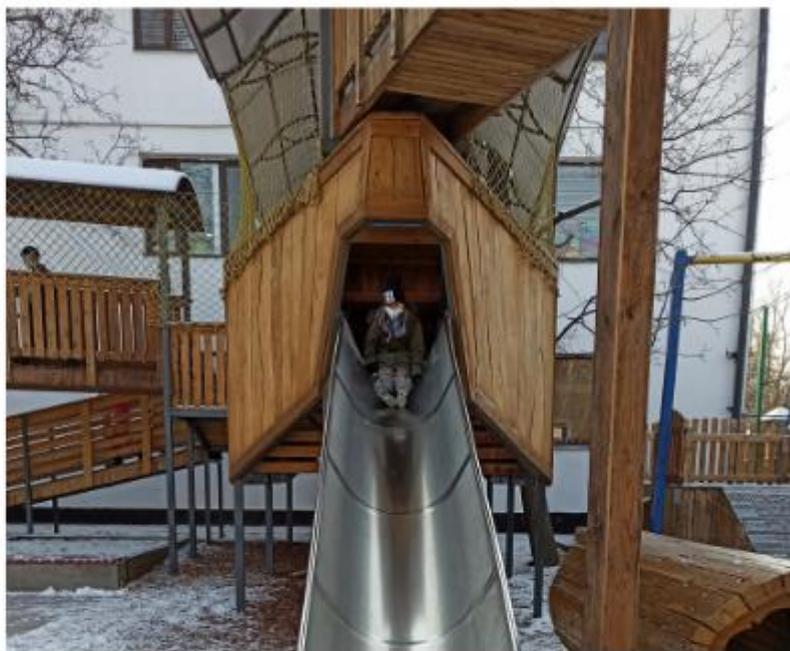


The International Baccalaureate (IB) Diploma Programme (DP) at BIS was first authorized in December 2015. With a 5-year review cycle, November 2020 was always going to be the time for an official evaluation visit. As for most activities this year, COVID-19 intervened and the 'visit' ended up with the review team joining us via Zoom. The visit was for three days last week, which were filled up with 24 meetings involving 42 people in total and 10 class observations. Before these 'visit' days, our journey started in May 2019 to reflect on our programme implementation individually and by many different groups incorporating the whole school community. The long self-study process was followed by preparation of necessary documents, photographs and videos by the DP team and others in the school. We are happy to announce that we completed the evaluation visit by the IB team without major problems or hindrance. Overall, the evaluation team seemed to be happy and impressed by everyone they met. They will report to the IB within two weeks and we are expecting to receive the final review report from the IB sometime early 2021.

I would like to express my sincere appreciation to our students and parents, alumni and their parents, Governing Board and Management Board, administration staff and the DP team for their continuous commitment and cooperation. We are proud to be the first IB school in Kyrgyzstan and this counts as the 5th anniversary for the DP at BIS.

Ms. Makiko, DP Coordinator

BIS Snapshot: Outdoor Play



BIS HOUSE SPORTS EVENTS – 3 X 3

2020 is not an ordinary year. At the beginning of March, our school showed its flexibility and quickly switched to Remote learning. Today, with all the precautions, we have an almost regular situation at school.

Sports activities are no exception and, as you know, the football season, local and international competitions have been postponed. That doesn't mean we need to stop being active.

In two weeks, on December 4, we will have the [second House Sports competition - Basketball 3 x 3](#). The rules are simple and students already know most of them. The most important thing is to make teams by choosing teammates from the same House. Head of Houses Mr Daren, Mr Faez and Mr Slava can help students with this. Teams can have 3 players on a team (or 4 if 1 sub is included).

Deadline for registration is November 27.

Zeljko Jovetic, Athletics Director and PE Teacher

BIS HOUSE SPORTS EVENTS



3X3 BIS BASKETBALL OPEN 2020

DATE: 4/12, TIME: 13:00, PLACE: BIG HALL

4 CATEGORIES: MS GIRLS, MS BOYS, HS GIRLS, HS BOYS

Deadline for registration: 27/11

HOUSE CAPTAINS ELECTION 2020

Are you an approachable student who wants to lead their House Team to success?

Do you have some great ideas as to how to make the House system more effective?

If so, we would encourage you to put yourself forward for this important role in school.

House Captains will be expected to:

- Support their Head of House in respect of communicating to the BIS community, and in the organization of various events
- Act as link between Head of House and House Members
- Motivate and encourage students to participate in House events/competitions throughout the year.

House Captains should possess the following basic characteristics:

- Positive leadership skills
- A strong School 'Spirit'
- Good organisational skills
- A supportive, caring and fair attitude
- A respectful conduct towards House members and the whole BIS community
- Be responsible, and a good role model

If you want to find out more speak with your Head of House or send them an email:

Piranhas Head of House - Mr. Darren, dsimpson@bis.kg

Phoenixes Head of House - Mr. Slava, vklychev@bis.kg

Snow Leopards Head of House - Mr. Faez, fkanji@bis.kg.

BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

HOUSE CAPTAINS ELECTION 2020

PIRANHAS

SNOW LEOPARDS

PHOENIXES



Phoenixes



PIRANHAS



SNOW LEOPARDS



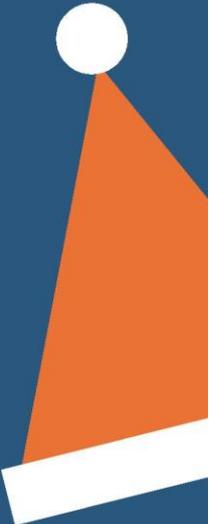
BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



DECEMBER SPIRIT DAYS



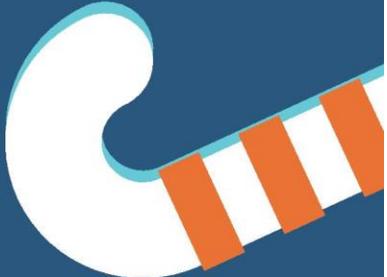
Join in the festive fun by
wearing:

- *Costumes inspired by a different generation (04.12.)
 - *Cosy Pyjamas (11.12.)
 - *Winter Jumpers (18.12.)
- 

Our Spirit Days are a chance for
students, from Preschool to DP, to enjoy
the winter season and its festivities.



STUDENTS WILL RECEIVE 10
HOUSE POINTS FOR EACH DAY
THAT THEY PARTICIPATE IN.



REMINDER: SIGN UP TO WATCH THE LION KING MOVIE

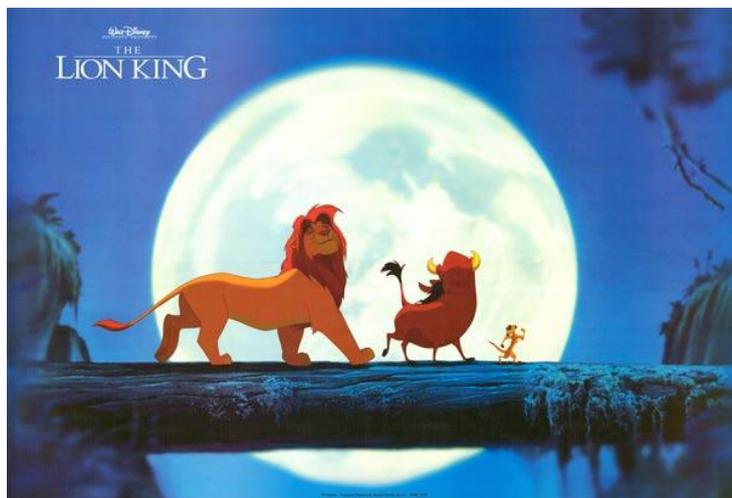
Come and watch the original "The Lion King" movie! (P3 and up)

Signup is required!

- P3-P6: Tuesday, November 24th at 3:30pm (Small Hall/Library)
- MYP: Friday, November 27th at 3:30pm (Small Hall)
- High School: Friday, November 27th at 3:30pm (Library)

Space is limited, so please sign up [here](#):

If you have any questions, please email Mr. David Lien at DLien@bis.kg



RECOMMEND A BOOK FOR THE LIBRARY

New suggestion boxes have been placed in the library. Students are invited to place books they would like to read in the boxes and the Library would consider purchasing these books to add to its collection. We aim to buy books that are likely to be of interest to more than one person.

If you would like to make a suggestion, please fill out a paper form and put it into the box. The boxes are located in the Secondary library and the Primary library.

Suggestions may be submitted by all community members using the [online form](#) as well.

We are always interested to hear your suggestions for additions to our library collection.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- Friday 18th December – Last Day of First Semester / Ded Moroz
- 28th December – 8th January – Winter Break
- Monday 11th January – First Day of Second Semester

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for November 23rd - 27th 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.

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you have anything you want to discuss or suggestions for the school, please contact your child's Homeroom or Form Teacher and they will either answer directly or pass the message on to the right person. Messages can be sent in English or Russian, or in your own language. If you do not know the correct email address for the person you want to write to, please write to info@bis.kg and our Reception will forward your email to the right person.



PRESCHOOL 1

Our Preschool 1 friends have had another wonderful week learning about feelings and emotions. We have discussed many feelings and emotions that we experience in our lives. At the beginning of the week, we made various art and crafts, like 'monster face' and 'feeling wheels'. Every friend in our class had a turn to spin the arrow on the feeling wheel and show the emotion they landed on. Our friends closely investigated what causes our different emotions. For instance, we feel happy when we play with our favorite toys, we feel sad when we miss our mummy and when friends do not share toys. In the middle of the week, we made a pizza that showed our feelings. There was happy pizza, silly pizza and sad pizza. Towards the end of the week, we were busy sorting different emotions by naming and putting them in the right place, describing emotions of different people by looking at pictures of them. Over the unit, Preschool 1 friends showed great empathy and care toward the different pictures of people and their emotions. Next week, we will start to talk about community helpers and our relationships with them.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

Preschool 2 learned how to express ourselves through music. In the beginning of the week we got small music instruments to learn how people express their emotions through music. In the lesson, the children could play any kind of music to their friends and classmates should guess whether this was happy music or sad music. Everyone liked the game a lot. Thus, loud drum sounds indicated an angry mood, light xylophone sounds were for the emotion of happiness. The most popular feelings that children wanted to show, were happy, joyful, angry and confused. Later in the week, we decided to combine music and art, conducting an experiment called "I draw what I hear". In this activity we played different music - happy, sad, music for sleep, classical music while children listening to the music were drawing the things music drew in their minds. The pictures were totally different, which proves that music can influence the way we express ourselves. Inviting some teachers in our class, we listened to them playing musical instruments and telling us about these instruments, what parts it consists of and how to play it. Our first guest was Mr. Grant, Head of Performing Arts. He brought a saxophone and demonstrated how to put all its parts together. Mr Grant played us nice music and let children press keys to change the melody. The next guest was Mr. David, our Music and Drama teacher. Mr David brought a cello and played us fast (happy), sad (slow) and scary music. The friends liked Mr. David's instrument a lot. The next guest was Mr. Slava with his guitar. Mr Slava made our children laugh playing funny music. All our guests highlighted that music is a great way for them to express their emotions.

Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week, in Preschool 3, we learned about the letter 'k'. We did a lot of fun letter 'k' crafts as we created a beautiful kite, colored a key and tried our very best to write the letter 'k'. We also had fun with Ms. Gulsana during our Kyrgyz lessons where we learned about fruits and vegetables. We also had an amazing time with Dr. Anna painting all different kinds of houses and flowers to decorate the houses.

Next week, we will be learning about the letter 'l'. We will also be learning about the mud hut and we will continue to work on our number sequences.

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

