



‘THERE’S NO SUCH THING AS A MISTAKE IN ART!’

This week, our Primary 4 Remote Learners were joined by artist Ruslan Lyu.

After having spent a few lessons exploring different materials used by artists throughout history (including turmeric, coffee, pencils and even Zoom Paint), Mateo, Lucie and Zephyrus started working with black marker pen! Without the ability to erase, our three artists-in-the-making began experimenting with the bold tool – creating pictures of anything they could think of! Lucie reflected on how the use of a marker meant having to think about how we could turn what felt like a mistake to a meaning part of the artwork.

Mr Faez showed our students a video of a local artist, Ruslan, who uses this exact tool in his own work. After being amazed by the time lapse demonstrating the powerful image we can see on the right, Mr Faez asked students, ‘I wonder what advice and feedback Ruslan would give about our drawings,’ to which Zephyrus replied, ‘Yes, that would be cool, but how?’ Before we knew it, Ruslan had indeed jumped into the Zoom call and was in the online classroom with our students and Mr Faez.

The students had an opportunity to share their work with Ruslan who commented on their pieces before he gave them another task: to create their perception of happiness!

Mateo and Zephyrus both commented on wanting to include light colours to represent the sunshine – something that makes them both feel happy. Lucie’s masterpiece instead took inspiration from people who brought her happiness – her family.

Toward the end of Ruslan’s guest speaker session with our P4 students, we were able to enjoy Ruslan showcase some more of his art skills but this time live! Similar to Lucie’s thoughts earlier in the session, Ruslan spoke about the power of the marker and how it helped him realize that there is no such thing as a mistake in art!

If you are or know an artist who would be interested in further supporting our students by being a guest speaker or holding a workshop, please do get in touch! We’d love to hear from you.

Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies and PYP Coordinator



CONGRATULATIONS TO

THE CPR HEROES!



Celebrating students who are CPR is an important part of the end of each week, but it will be done quickly in today's assembly in order to make sure that our inaugural 3v3 house basketball competition gets off to a prompt start. I'll aim to keep this week's instalment similarly brief!

In PYP, **Ailin's** teacher has described her as someone who 'consistently embodies the characteristics of a person who is CPR. She translates for those who need it, helps take temperatures at lunch time and cares about teachers and students through her constant willingness to help'. P4 has really stepped up to the mark this week, with **Nursamad** caring for his class by constantly tidying up and trying to do the right thing. **Sasha** has been caring for the community by taking steps to keep the playground safe for everyone, and **Nikita** has been kind and responsible in all of his classes. Finally, in P6, a huge amount of respect goes to Kais for actively deciding to help support dogs at a local animal shelter rather than receiving birthday presents – so caring, Kais!

In MYP, **Laura** has once again shown a great deal of kindness to many people in her class, and **Said** was recognised for the positive energy he brought to MYP1. In MYP3, **Met** went above and beyond to ensure that remote learners could access their learning by using his camera skills, and **Anel** showed great enthusiasm and flexibility to deliver her part of her group presentation from home.

Lastly, in IGCSE1 **Elshat** has been working diligently while also making time to help out her fellow students, not an easy balance to achieve but she has kept at it!

Well done to all of our CPR heroes this week and best of luck to all of our basketballers tomorrow!

Mr. Darren, Head of Student Welfare

PYP GALAXY GO GETTERS



AUDITION FOR THE ANNIVERSARY SHOW "THE LION KING" MUSICAL!

THE LION KING

Sign up THIS WEEKEND for the Anniversary Show "The Lion King" Musical!!!

The Anniversary Show is the **BIGGEST BIS** event of the entire year. This year is **PARTICULARLY** special because it is the **10th year anniversary** of the school! So we need as many performers as possible!

Visit our audition website for all of the detailed information: <https://sites.google.com/esca.kg/bislionking>

Auditions are NEXT WEEK:

- Tuesday, December 8th (3:30-4:30)
- Wednesday, December 9th (3:30-4:30)
- Thursday, December 10th (3:30-5:00pm)

(Sign up for an audition slot outside of the Small Hall)

Primary students who want to be involved are REQUIRED to audition.

MYP and High School Students can just sign up! They do **NOT** need to audition, unless they want to be considered for a bigger/featured role.

Everybody has to fill out a signup form (which can be found on the website) by **Thursday, December 10th, 5pm.**

Students who are unable to attend auditions can send a video instead. Please email Mr. David as soon as possible (or before **Monday, December 7th**) to inquire about this option.

For auditions, students have to prepare a short song and monologue of their choice (from the Lion King). All of this information can be found on the website.

Visit our audition website for all of the detailed information: <https://sites.google.com/esca.kg/bislionking>

Reach out to Mr. David DLien@bis.kg if you have any questions!

BIS Snapshot: Throwback Day



HOUSE CAPTAINS & VICE CAPTAINS

At BIS we have three Houses for students from Primary, Middle and High school, representing 'land', 'water', and 'air'. Houses were named as 'Snow Leopards', 'Piranhas', and 'Phoenixes'.

Each House has spent the past weeks in an election process for the positions of Captain and Vice-Captain.

I am pleased to introduce our first official House Captains and Vice Captains for the 2020-2021 year:

 Phoenixes	 PIRANHAS	 SNOW LEOPARDS
Head of House: Mr. Slava	Head of House: Mr. Darren	Head of House: Mr. Faez
House Captain: Fernanda Ormel DP2	House Captain: Sienna Chamberlain MYP2	House Captain: Alina Ozyardymdzy IGCSE2
Vice Captain: Lia Rogalskaya P5	Vice Captain: Yorali Bowles P5	Vice Captain: Carys Coppock P6

At BIS we recognise the importance and value of House and Vice House Captains in supporting our school. These key roles are ones of privilege and responsibility that require the students to be dedicated and organised and set a positive example to all students throughout the school.

Bojana Askovic, Houses Coordinator

NEW FACES AT BIS: MR OLEN

After my first year of college, I returned back home to watch my sister's high school graduation. During the commencement, the valedictorian (Michael) stepped up to the microphone with a larger than life smile on his face. We'd gone to the same daycare together as children, and the year before, we'd played on the same sports teams for CHS, while we shared the high school experience.

Mike began with the message of what to do if and when you see an "open microphone" or vacant podium. He spoke with his wit, his mannerisms, his expressions and his words. He forced an entire auditorium to sit silently at attention, and roll back in laughter at every punch-line. He spoke about the opportunity and the power that is presented when an "open microphone" is presented and the possibilities and responsibilities of seizing it. He spoke of how it can be used for good or simply wasted.

When I think of greatest speeches (to me) of all time, I don't think of MLK, JFK, or of Nobel laureates. I don't think of Obama, with his famous pauses, addressing a global event or healing a nation. Though these words are powerful, they're not the ones which endure with me. I think of those whose words resonate and become part of me. These people are able to reach their audience and can speak 'to' them, not 'at' them. Sometimes it's with a stage and microphone. Sometimes it's with a warm cup of coffee. I still remember this young man's speech.

Another friend (Jonn) was even younger. Today, he teaches math and coaches basketball at my old high school. Growing up in a town of 5,000 people in Nebraska, everyone knew everyone. When I was a senior, it was evident to me then, that Jonn was and would be a good leader. At the local college, he was the starting quarterback for four years. Like in American movies, he could have been a bully. But, it was the opposite of his nature. While I was teaching in Sudan (a few years ago) and communicating with my darling mother back home, getting caught up on the local gossip, she shared a story about Jonn. In his homeroom class, a girl was lashing out at her peers,



visibly upset. He could see she was having a bad day and pulled her out to speak. He didn't talk about her behavior. He told her that he cared about her and understood that something was wrong and that she could talk with him. She broke into tears and shared what was bothering her in her personal life. He told her she can take all the time she needs and can come back inside when she is ready. He said he was not upset, that he cared about her, and that "it's going to be okay." A few minutes later, it was.

Hearing this story, it felt like hearing about a little brother and realizing that a boy I knew was now a man. A big part of growing up is learning patience and understanding. As a teacher, I am proud to say that I have learned from those who are younger than me. Wisdom comes in all ages and leadership is not a right of time, as much as it is an opportunity to help lift others around you. I love seeing people (be able to) learn, grow and build themselves up: by learning to think critically, care about their community, care about others, work with peers and find their voice. Since I have been at BIS, I think about Alexia addressing the school assembly and sharing information about the trash clean-up initiative, early in the year. I think of Geert taking on the responsibilities of a Student Council president and addressing the student body. I think of Emil, in MYP1, sharing (confidently) his vision for the direction that certain ECAs should take.

Students at BIS have a lot of voice. That's something that I love about this school. I think it's important that, as teachers and students, we recognize the opportunities we have been afforded and not take them for granted. I don't think that I am that interesting, but I feel that I have met many interesting people. That's what I wanted to share in this space. Some have been older, some younger. Some were strangers and some were friends. If you read this, then I hope you can keep an open mind and know that there is opportunity to learn from anyone we meet - even the difficult people. They provide us an opportunity to practice our patience and composure.

Use your opportunities.

All the best to you and yours this holiday.

Mr. Olen MYP Ind & Soc, ELA Teacher

COLLABORATION AND DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PROGRAMME MEETINGS

With the many online lessons that have been held in 2020, parents have had a chance to see a window into the lives of teachers more so than ever before. One element of BIS teaching life that may be less known about, however, is the weekly programme meetings our teams attend.

These meetings are often led by Programme Coordinators to allow for teachers to work together, inspire each other and ensure there is a consistent approach to the education we offer. Though our Programme Coordinators are extremely knowledgeable in their fields, BIS is also full of creative, committed, passionate teachers and department leaders each with a well of knowledge from their own work and life experiences. Our teachers are always thinking, designing, and discovering and demonstrating the life-long learning attitude that we want our students to develop.



We therefore try to tap into the knowledge and skill set that our teaching teams have in order to share "best" practice and diversify the strengths of our teaching team.

Here you can see our Co-teachers and Learning Diversity and Inclusion team working together at a Programme Meeting led by Kathryn Ryder, our LDI Coordinator, earlier this week. This session focused on developing ideas and strategies to support students who struggle with reading.

Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies

GEOMETRY MEETS ART

In MYP1 Maths, we have just finished a unit exploring geometric constructions through the global context of personal and cultural expression. For their summative assessment, MYP1G had to make a piece of art that included the geometric features from the unit. Below is the work of four students: Linus (top left), then working clockwise: Shirmet, Djavid and Kimberley.

Students also had to label the geometric features on a copy of their art and write a description of how these features helped them create their work. Here is the description that Linus wrote:

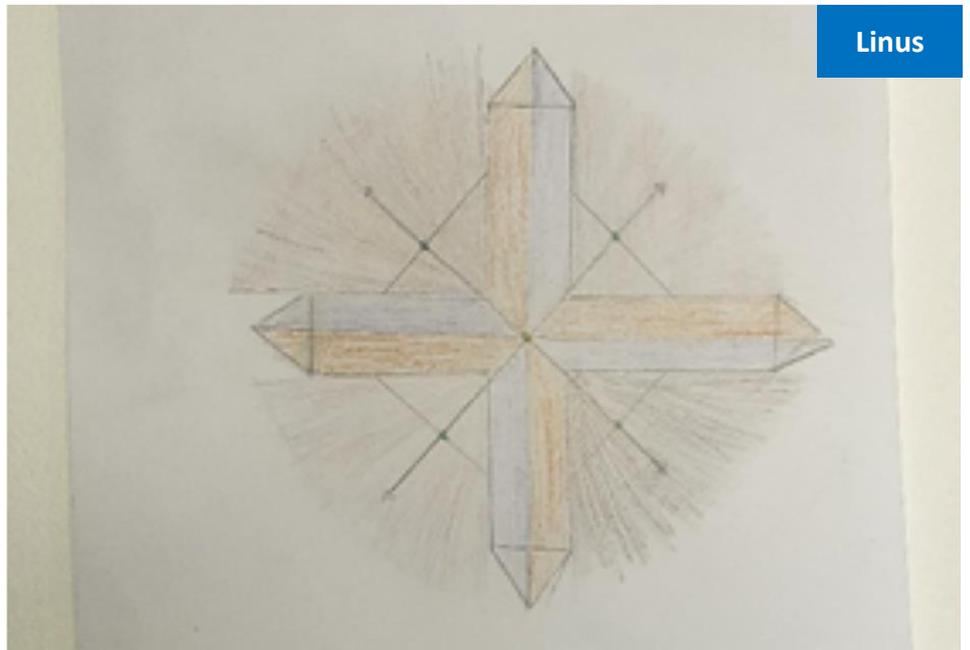
“This artwork was created by math. My artwork is called Triton. It shows a cross with beams of light shooting from it. The beams of light are pictured in forms of rays. Points show the center of the artwork and a square the cross is based on. The sides of the cross are shaded using contrast. I think that geometry makes the art feel stable and that it doesn't have to change and that it will not change. I think the technique of using math in art intentionally is a new kind of artistic direction.”

Excellent application of mathematics to artistry and creativity, MYP1G!

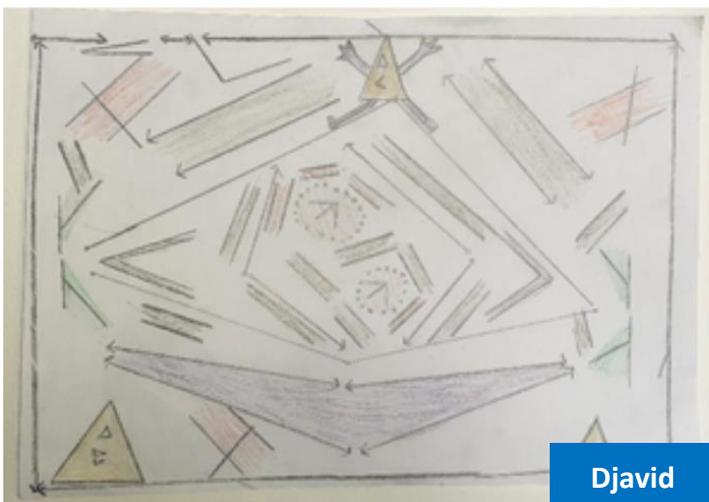
Mr. Tim, Language Acquisition and Mathematics Teacher, MYP Coordinator



Kimberly



Linus



Djavid



Shirmet



BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

DECEMBER SPIRIT DAYS



Join in the festive fun by
wearing:

- *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.



UPDATED CALENDAR FOR 2020/21

The updated calendar for academic year 2020/21 is now available [here](#).

SCHOOL YEAR 2020/2021																																																														
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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 December 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.

KEEP IN TOUCH

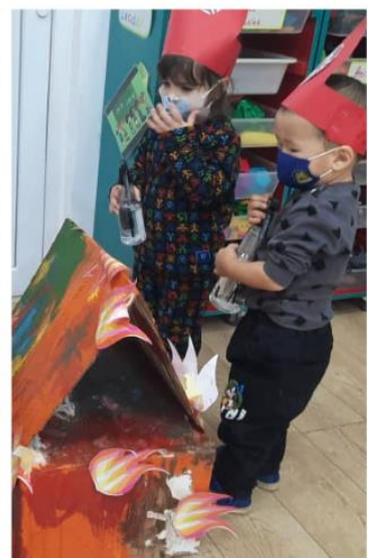
If you have anything you want to discuss or suggestions for the school, please contact your child's Homeroom or Form Teacher and they will either answer directly or pass the message on to the right person. Messages can be sent in English or Russian, or in your own language. If you do not know the correct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

Preschool 1 friends have enjoyed the past two weeks transforming into different community helpers almost every day. We have tried being firefighters, police officers, chefs, pilots and farmers. This week, our Preschool 1 friends started by being firefighters who saved people's lives when they were in danger. We also enjoyed singing the, 'Here comes the fire truck' song while driving our fire engine. The next day, we made a police car out of a card box and drove it all around the classroom. In the middle of the week, our friends were chefs and made a healthy fruit salad. It took time for our young chefs to clean, cut and mix all the fruits. Another day this week we were pilots and our airplanes made us fly above the clouds; we enjoy the trip! On Friday, Preschool 1 friends were farmers and learned to take care of animals. Next week, we are going to talk about our five senses.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

Preschool 2 group has finished talking about how people express their feelings and emotions through favourite activities. On Monday, our final students shared activity photos with us and told about the things they like to do at home with family. Aruna told us that her family go to the mountains very often and like to cook food on the campfire. After Aruna's story, we took photos and created a wall called "My Hobby". Our Preschool 2 students go and visit this wall several times a day to check their photos and remember sweet moments spent with people close to them. On Wednesday we made an activity where children were sorting objects and actions that evoke different feelings in them. We saw toys, places, actions and people among the pictures, and it was interesting to see how each child talks about the picture and decides where to stick it - on a happy, a sad, a confused, a scared or an angry face. For our math lessons, we revised all numbers from 1 to 5 and practiced the correlation between the number and quantity by matching numbers and pictures of animals.



Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

It was a magnificent week for our Preschool 3 friends. We learned about the letter 'm', and we discovered that the letter 'm' is a consonant because it only makes one sound. We also worked on our cooking skills by making our very own dough to make cute letter 'm' mice. Our friends also had an amazing time with Head of Visual Arts, Dr. Anna. They created their own city with different types of houses, and we had fun music lessons with Ms. Munara where we made patterns with music! Preschool 3 friends also created their very own ABAB patterns using different types of materials in the classroom. Next week, we will continue to learn about patterns and we will learn about the letter 'n'.

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



