



A TRIP BACK IN TIME

For our PYP Unit of Inquiry, How We Organise Ourselves, P5 has been learning about economic interdependence along the Silk Road. We have read books, watched videos, played a trade simulation game, and even listened to a rap about the Silk Road.



However, none of this beat our fantastic in-person meet up with the fascinating archeologist, Mr. Sergey, and the knowledgeable Ms. Rahat of Bishkek Walks at the Gapar Aitiev Museum last Friday.

The duo took us back in time to learn more about the incredible history of the Silk Road. Mr. Sergey showed us ancient artifacts and answered many of P5's numerous inquiries.

The class got to touch and observe the details of the artifacts up close. We could even see the fingerprints in the clay of the artisan who made the pottery in ancient times. It was a very exciting experience!

Ms. Rona, Primary 5 Homeroom Teacher



CONGRATULATIONS TO

THE CPR HEROES!



Finally, we made it! A whirlwind term and semester in many ways, but everyone can feel proud to have made it through to the other side, hopefully a little wiser and happier for the experience! Read on for our final CPR installment of 2020...

Everyone in Preschool deserves special congratulations for learning to be caring, principled and reflective throughout this term, learning to share and empathise with others, a very grown-up skill! A big well done also goes to the whole of primary for their participation in the upcycling Secret Santa which saw handmade eco-friendly gifts being made and exchanged across the PYP. Thanks to Ms Moni and the Primary Student Council for their creative thinking and leadership in driving this initiative.

In the MYP, one student has been recognised by her teachers several times this year, and so for her consistently caring, principled and reflective behaviour **Nestan** deserves a special mention. In IGCSE, **Baiana** has been commended by her teachers for making the classroom experience fun and interesting, and **Mariam** showed her caring nature by helping a younger student in distress.

Last but not least, DP. **Chynybek** established goals at the outset of this term and has worked hard to achieve them, while both **Aizat** and **Tanya** have consistently engaged and participated in learning throughout the term.

All that remains to say is to keep being CPR, and enjoy your vacations, staycations and holiday celebrations whatever and wherever they may be. Wishing you a happy holiday season and all the best for the rapidly-approaching 2021!

Mr. Darren, Head of Student Welfare

PYP GALAXY GO GETTERS



PRIMARY 1 EXCHANGE SPECIAL GIFTS

This week, the P1 Friends worked very hard on their special cards and crafts and presented their creations to their "Secret Santa". The children were absolutely adorable as they exchanged their special gifts and we learned to say "Thank You" in 7 different languages!



As part of this process, the children reflected on what their Secret Santa friend would like - they worked hard on not making something they themselves would like but instead thinking about what their friend would like. They also practiced self-control by not telling each other who their Secret Santa was. Well done P1! Here are some quotes from our gift exchange:

"This is for YOU!"

"Wow, I like it very much"

"Thank you SO much"

"Here is a spaceship for you.... do you like it?"

"It's for you, it's actually a special box"

"I made a flower for you"

"I can fix it for you if it breaks"

We can't wait to turn this wonderful activity into a BIS tradition!



LA YURTA DE BENDICIÓN (THE BLESSING YURT)

The global pandemic may be preventing our students from international trips this year, though this didn't stop IGCSE 2 Spanish from an excursion!

I've spent a year thinking about how to create a Spanish language field trip in Kyrgyzstan - a country with very few Spanish speakers. This week, the perfect opportunity arose. Though our IGCSE Spanish class did not take a field trip to practice their language skills with Spanish speakers, our students were able to get out of the classroom and into a real-life context.

Unlike the classroom, where use of the language is in a fabricated setting, our students were given the task of conversing for a full 90 minutes in Spanish which required a lot more creativity and spontaneity with the vocabulary and grammar.

Students started their mini trip with a taxi ride through the city where they described the sites we could see and discussed what made Bishkek culture unique. We also used the journey as an opportunity to practice giving directions!

On arrival to the Museum of Fine Arts, our small group (made up of Alina Ozyardymdzhyy and Karina Kolesnichenko) experienced The Blessing Yurt exhibition by artist and fashion designer, Altynai Osmoeva. As they did so, Alina and Karina created a Vlog in Spanish to document their experience. This included a Spanish commentary on the variety of felt couture, discussions regarding the symbolism of light and shoes, and the powerful impact and influence of women in the world. Not only describing to their audience all that the exhibition contained, Alina and Karina also translated Kyrgyz proverbs into Spanish, and shared their own opinions on the different pieces of artwork displayed.

Our group also had the opportunity of visiting a 'mercado de artesanias' (crafts bazaar) at the museum. As it was a Wednesday morning and fairly empty, we were able to use the setting to bring to life role play scenarios such as buying gifts, bargaining and haggling, and the general conversations that come with window shopping!

In visiting 'the real world', the Spanish conversations and discussions that Alina and Karina were having felt much more real too. Whilst it may not have been a trip to Madrid or Barcelona, it was wonderful for IGCSE 2 Spanish to use their language skills outside of the classroom setting whilst having the opportunity to experience a reflective and inspiring insight into what makes Kyrgyzstan special.

Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies



LE CHAT ET LE BOUVREUIL (THE CAT AND THE BULLFINCH)

Sophie et Paul se promenaient un jour avec leur bonne; ils revenaient de chez une pauvre femme à laquelle ils avaient été porter de l'argent. Ils revenaient tout doucement; tantôt ils cherchaient à grimper à un arbre, tantôt ils passaient au travers des haies et se cachaient dans les buissons. Sophie était cachée et Paul la cherchait, lorsqu'elle entendit un tout petit miaou bien faible, bien plaintif. Sophie eut peur ; elle sortit de sa cachette. Sophie se retournait et se faufilaient dans les buissons, tandis que Paul essayait de l'aider. Ils suivaient les petits bruits et trouvaient enfin le chat tout au fond des buissons. Le chat était blanc, avec du sang partout sur son corps.

SOPHIE - "Oh mon dieu, qu'est-ce qui ne va pas avec toi minou?"

À l'arrière du chat, il y avait beaucoup de petites égratignures. De toute évidence, ils faisaient vraiment mal, donc le chat ne pouvait pas bien bouger. Tout à coup, le chat a miaulé et a pointé la tête vers un petit bouvreuil sur une branche près de Sophie. L'oiseau était assis dans son nid, regardant fixement le chat.

PAUL - "Les égratignures sur le chat ressemblent à quelque chose qu'un oiseau pourrait faire."

Sophie posa ses mains sur le chat blessé et se leva. Elle a regardé dans le nid et a vu des œufs!

SOPHIE - "Je comprends maintenant! Avez-vous fait cela pour protéger vos bébés?"

PAUL - "Mais comment un oiseau pourrait-il faire une telle chose à un chat? Le bouvreuil est si petit!"

Sophie regarde le chat et lui tapote la tête. L'oiseau tweete et Sophie sourit.

SOPHIE - "Je ne suis pas sûre, mais je suppose que c'est parce qu'elle aime vraiment ses bébés."

PAUL - "Ça a du sens. On devrait y aller maintenant Sophie, j'ai faim."

Sophie a pris le chat et l'a apporté à sa voisine qui était un très bon vétérinaire, pendant que Paul restait avec l'oiseau. Après cela, Sophie est retournée à Paul très heureuse.

SOPHIE - "Nous avons beaucoup appris aujourd'hui. Premièrement, il est bien d'aider les animaux. Deuxièmement, ne sous-estimez pas un animal par sa taille. Et troisièmement, si vous aimez vraiment quelqu'un, vous ferez tout pour le protéger."

Sophie and Paul were walking one day with their maid; they were returning from a poor woman's house to whom they had taken money. They came back very slowly; sometimes they tried to climb a tree, sometimes they passed through the hedges and hid in the bushes. Sophie was hiding and Paul was looking for her, when she heard a very low, very plaintive little meow. Sophie was afraid; she came out of her hiding place. Sophie turned and slipped through the bushes, while Paul tried to help her. They followed the little noises and finally found the cat deep in the bushes. The cat was white, with blood all over its body.

SOPHIE - "Oh my god, what's wrong with you, kitty?"

On the back of the cat there were a lot of small scratches. They were really deep, so the cat couldn't move. Suddenly the cat meowed and pointed its head at a little bullfinch on a branch near Sophie. The bird was sitting in its nest, staring down at the cat.

PAUL - "The scratch on the kitty looks like something a bird might do."

Sophie put her hands on the injured cat and stood up. She looked in the bullfinch's nest and saw eggs!

SOPHIE - "I understand now! Did you do this to protect your babies?"

PAUL - "But how could a bird do such a thing to a cat? The bullfinch is so small!"

Sophie looks at the cat and pats it on the head. The bird tweets and Sophie smiles.

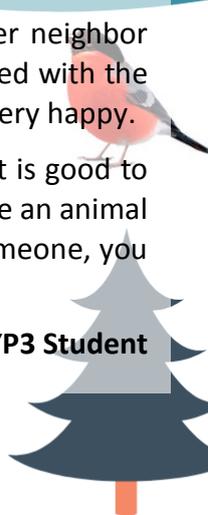
SOPHIE - "I'm not sure, but I guess it's because she really loves her babies."

PAUL - "It makes sense. We should go now Sophie, I'm hungry."

Sophie took the cat and brought it to her neighbor who was a very good vet, while Paul stayed with the bird. After that, Sophie returned to Paul very happy.

SOPHIE - "We learned a lot today. First, it is good to help animals. Second, don't underestimate an animal by its size. And third, if you really love someone, you will do anything to protect them."

Delilah, MYP3 Student



NEW FACES AT BIS: MR REZA

Hello BIS! I'm very glad that my adventures brought me to this great place. I was born in a relatively big city in Iran called Mashhad but my family never stayed in the same place for too long. Traveling around Iran and central Asia, I gained so much knowledge about different cultures, languages and people. I danced and ate falafel with southern Iranians, dove into Persian Gulf and emerged at Caspian Sea in the north. I rode a camel in the west and climbed the Damavand mountain. After traveling around Central Asian countries, eventually my family settled in Bishkek in 2004. Kyrgyzstan was the country where I learnt how to play guitar and started a rock band,



rollerbladed on the rooftop of "Dvoret's Sporta" and skied my way down the Karakol mountains.

I studied electrical engineering in Malaysia and came back to Bishkek to eventually become a teacher and I'm fortunate enough to say, I found my calling!

Given my engineering background, I was assigned as the Makerspace Manager and my goal is to turn that small room full of the coolest stuff you could ever find, into a land of possibilities for those who want to create. If you look carefully, you can see breadcrumbs leading to the makerspace everywhere around the school. Little easter eggs here and there...

Stay vigilant, don't give up on your passions and ideas and look out for more interesting stuff to come.

Follow us [@bis_makerspace](#) on Instagram!

Mr. Reza, Math, ICT and Design teacher, Makerspace Manager

IMPLEMENTING FLOORBALL INTO THE PE CURRICULUM

BIS made history this year by being the first school ever in Kyrgyzstan to implement indoor hockey into the PE curriculum. After the fall break, Mr. Faez began introducing this exciting new Olympic sport to MYP using fun games-based exercises that emphasised eye-hand coordination, movement and teamwork. While the game is officially played 5 on 5, we adapted the game to our gym by playing 3 on 3. And boy did the games get competitive!

Officially known as Floorball, the sport is played using a carbon fibre shaft, a plastic blade and a lightweight ball. It became popular in Scandinavia and in parts of Europe in schools in the 1970s and 1980s, and received recognition from the International Olympic Committee in 2008. Our very own Mr. Faez played on the Canadian national team from 2012-2016.

We hope to continue introducing this fast-paced, safe and exciting sport to more classes in the new year. We believe that Floorball has a number of skills that will transfer to our core sports like basketball and soccer. While it may take time for Floorball to become a core sport in Kyrgyzstan, we are proud to be the first school to get the party started!

Ms. Krisha and Mr. Faez



BIS Snapshot: Winter Jumpers



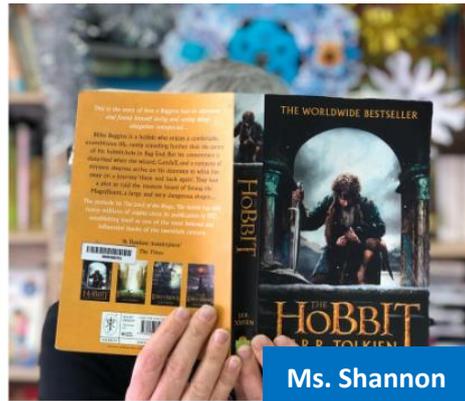
BIS Snapshot: Teachers Read Too



Ms. Soumiya



Ms. Carmen



Ms. Shannon



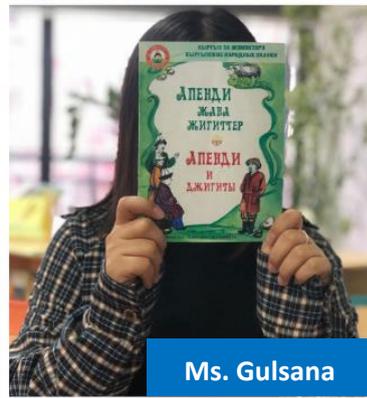
Mr. Tim



Mr. Slava



Ms. Sunny



Ms. Gulsana



Mr. Zeljko



Ms. Oksana



Ms. Zhibek



Ms. Tina



Ms. Elvira



Ms. Kathleen



Mr. David L



Mr. Olen



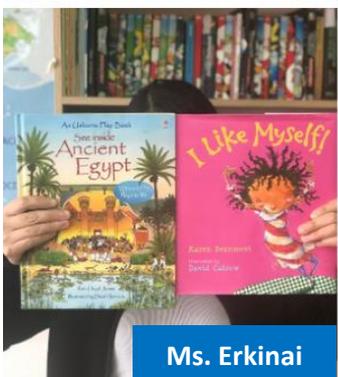
Ms. Munara



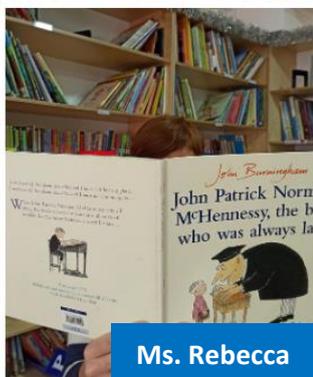
Mr. Thierry



Mr. David Grant



Ms. Erkinai



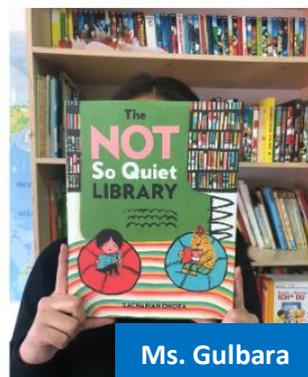
Ms. Rebecca



Ms. Olga



Mr. Kevin



Ms. Gulbara

TEACHERS READ TOO – HOUSE COMPETITION RESULTS

STUDENTS

Carys P6 (Snow Leopards),
Aysha P6 (Snow Leopards)

14 correct answers



Veronica P6 (Piranhas),
Arina P6 (Piranhas),
Zeinep P6 (Piranhas),
Alexia DP1 (Piranhas)

13 correct answers



TEACHERS

Ms. Jibek (Snow Leopards)

22 correct answers

Ms. Elvira (Snow Leopards)
Ms. Diana (Piranhas)

20 correct answers

CONGRATULATIONS!



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 21st December – 8th January – Winter Break
- Monday 11th January – First Day of Second Semester
- 14th January: Parent-Teacher meeting: Middle & High School
- 18-22 January: Parent-Teacher Meetings: Preschool & Primary
- Friday 29th January: Winter Sports Day



PRESCHOOL 1

The last week of the first half of the school year was full of fun and joy. The week started by talking about winter, coming holidays and making a New Year Tree. Together, we baked holiday themed cookies! Winter tree and star cookies were the most popular ones. We also made holiday ornaments to decorate our winter trees at home. During our morning circles, we sang songs, repeated our numbers and revised the shapes that we learned in the first semester. The highlight of the week was the visit of Ded Moroz! Our children were really happy and excited to see him together with Snegurochka, and receive holiday presents! The Preschool 1 team wants to thank all parents for their support and cooperation! We sincerely wish you a wonderful break and hope to see everyone safe and back at school in the new term.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This was the last week of studying and now is the time to spend days with family and meet New Year! The time flew very fast, but these were four amazing months of learning how to be friends, share toys, help friends in difficult times and inquire in the depth of the unknown and interesting.

This week we made lots of winter art crafts such as a beautiful New Year Tree full of colorful toys, a snowman family made of tissue papers, salt snowflakes, salt dough stars and trees, and Ded Moroz gloves out of colorful paper. The most exciting day happened on Friday when Ded Moroz came to us to give presents. The children waited for Ded Moroz and prepared a song called "I am a little Snowman". Ded Moroz played several games with us and made the children laugh!

We wish the sweetest of holidays with your family and friends, and hope you come back full of energy for new adventures! Happy New Year!



PRESCHOOL 3

The last week of the term is finally here. We learned a lot of things this term. In their own words, 'Even if you are an ant you need a house, snow is frozen water, trying is important because it helps us learn new things and, most importantly, we care and love every creature on the planet because the planet is our home and we need to take better care of it.'

This week, we had a surprise visit from Ded Moroz who came to all our preschool classes to give us presents. We really enjoyed singing two songs for him 'I'm a little snowman' and 'Way up high in a Holiday tree'. He really liked our songs. For the next three weeks, we will enjoy the holiday season and we hope everyone has a great break!

We look forward to seeing you all again in the new year.

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

