



CELEBRATING STUDENT ACHIEVEMENTS!

BIS has a new mural! Inspired by our P4 Remote Learners' work with local artist Ruslan Lyu, BIS asked Ruslan to work on a piece for our walls that would celebrate our students' achievements.

Whilst we have been celebrating our students' Caring, Principled and Reflective actions in assemblies over the past year, we want to make an explicit effort to ensure all students from Preschool to DP have a chance for their positive actions to be celebrated - even if they don't fall into CPR. We are therefore adding two more categories to the weekly awards to incorporate all the IB Learner Profile: BROC awards and KTI awards.

From this semester, students may be awarded for being Caring, Principled and Reflective (CPR), Balanced Risk Takers who are Open Minded Communicators (BROC) or Knowledgeable, Thinkers and Inquirers (KTI).

As with our CPR awards, nominations can be made by staff members on a weekly basis, though if you - as a student, parent or wider community member - have a nomination, please message myself, a programme coordinator or Mr Darren, our Head of Student Welfare, with your nomination and reasoning.

I am proud to announce that this week the following students received our very first CPR, BROC and KTI awards of 2021:

CPR: Ali Powers (Primary 3)

KTI: Aruna Ababakirova (Preschool 2), Selim Chargynov (Primary 3S), Elliott Chamberlain (IGCSE 1), Aizhigit Mamatov (DP1)

BROC: Nursamad Nurbaev (Primary 4L)

Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies



GALAXY GO GETTERS!



Our Primary School students continued to be celebrated for weekly achievements in the homeroom setting! Well done to all those that stood out this week for making an exceptional effort in the first school week of 2021!

HOW CAN TRANSPORTATION IMPACT PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT?

This week, Primary 3 began inquiring into transport and its connections to people and the environment. For our UOI provocation children had to use the intentionally unevenly allocated resources at hand to figure out how to get home if no adults (such as drivers, family, teachers, or school bus) were to help them. Many children showed how capable of problem solving they were by using a variety of applications on our class tablets to check the costs associated with various transport, such as bus, taxi or Marshrutkas. Some had enough money, others realized the money given would not be enough to take a taxi or even a bus. In this unit provocation, children showed how caring and reflective they were in naturally creating groups to help one another, be it sharing money, knowledge, or spatial skills to make a realistic plan to get everyone to their home.



Some of their reflections on this activity were:

"I didn't know how difficult planning for transportation can be."

"Cost was the hardest part of this activity."

"Whenever I'm out I always look for landmarks that tell me I am in a certain area. That way I always know where I am or get back to places that I've been."



Primary 3 dove deeper into the Unit of Inquiry by using the thinking routine "See Think Wonder" to generate student-led questions to guide our inquiry into transportation. Children broke into groups and concentrated on one topic. They collaborated to make their thinking visible and revisited the concept of "fat" questions that we could use for our unit before sharing it with the class. Some of the questions Primary 3 was most interested in finding more about were:

"How are Electric cars good or bad for the Earth?"- Erik

"Are pedicabs only used in poorer countries?"- Cora

"How did they get so many magnets to make the Maglev tracks that go between cities? Do they need to make them?" – Ange, when his group discovered some bullet trains are propelled by magnetism.

Ms. Moni, Primary 3M Homeroom Teacher

P3 EXPLORING THE PROPERTIES OF MATERIALS



The P3S students investigated the properties of given materials to determine which could be used to design the best hat for sun protection. Tomorrow students will model and explain their designs and their hats will be evaluated to see if they meet the criteria of preventing sunburn, absorbing sweat, keeping the head cool and staying on the head. Which hat do you think meets all of this criteria?

Ms. Shannon, Primary 3S Homeroom Teacher



STUDENTS SUCCESS

Alan from P3S won a 2nd place (weight 24-26 kg) in an open Judo tournament which took place in Bishkek on December 27, 2020.

Congratulations and well done, Alan!



CELEBRATING DIVERSITY THROUGH OUR LIBRARY!

At BIS, we are always looking for ways to develop our collection of resources. In particular, over the past year, we have been focusing on celebrating diversity through books. Diversity encompasses several themes of identity, including race, ethnicity, disability, gender, class, types of family, sexual orientation and religion. With a focus on these different identities, we hope that our library becomes a unique hub in Bishkek - where we can lead the charge in celebrating diversity - among texts, authors and indeed our community members. As well as book orders, book donations have become an invaluable way of increasing our reading material. This week, we were so pleased to see Ms Kathleen, P1 Homeroom Teacher, donate 3 incredible books:

- We Should All Be Feminists - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- Americanah - Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie
- Little Flies Everywhere - Celeste Ng

If you have any books that you believe would help enhance BIS's diverse library collection, please do send them into school either with your child or by dropping them at the school's external reception.



Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies

IGCSE AND DP GERMAN-LEARNING STUDENTS VISIT TO STEINBRÄU

This Thursday, together with Ms. Arzygul, DP and IGCSE German-learning students visited the famous German cafe - Steinbräu. For us, this was the first trip since the beginning of the quarantine and we were very excited to practice our German and try the well-known Steinbräu sausages. This place was big and had a nice atmosphere - it felt like we were somewhere in the Middle Ages. While waiting for our order, we walked around the cafe and found out about many awards it has and how much it is recognized by many famous people and politicians around the world.

One of the most important goals of this trip was to practice German. Darika and I have been learning this language for only 4 months and it was very interesting and helpful to communicate with students who have

been learning German for more than a year or speak it fluently. After we had lunch, we started playing different games, such as 'Who am I' and guessing words. It was very nice to spend time with people who are always ready to help or advise if something is not clear to us. This trip was a great and helpful experience not only for Darika and me, but also for all the students who went there. We have learned a lot of new things and will try even more to improve our knowledge of German language!

Asiya and Darika, IGCSE 1 Students



SCIENCE IS THE KEY TO OUR FUTURE



MYP 1 students have completed a unit in Science of Separation and Purification. They engaged with global issue of providing clean water for everyone and learned different methods of water purification.

Mr. Alisher, Head of Science Department



STEM FAIR IS COMING SOON





Our P1 Friends were happy to be back at BIS with their classmates and had fun playing in the snow. This week we did a shape hunt around the school and enjoyed different sensory experiences by writing words and numbers in shaving cream and rice.



During English L&L, MYP3 students created crime scene dioramas along with their background stories as a culmination of our mystery unit.

Then they analyzed other groups' works to make deductions and solve the crime at hand with the information given.

**Ms. Grace, English L&L
Teacher**



THE LION KING REHEARSALS!

We had a great first week of rehearsals at "The Lion King" musical! We have two DP students who will be making regular videos about The Lion King rehearsals.

[CHECK OUT EPISODE 1 HERE](#)

(P3-DP2) If you are still interested in participating, we still have a few slots available.

Please send me an email by the end of the weekend. **This will be your last opportunity to sign up!**

If you want to know other ways you can participate, contact me at DLien@bis.kg

As a reminder:

- **Primary students** are required to attend all **Monday rehearsals 3:30-4:30**, and
- **Secondary students** are required to attend all **Tuesday rehearsals 3:30-5:30**.

In addition, there are optional Wednesday and Thursday rehearsals.



APPLY TO BECOME A WRITING TUTOR!

- DO YOU HAVE A KNACK FOR WRITING?
- DO YOU GET PRETTY GOOD GRADES ON WRITTEN ASSIGNMENTS?
- DO YOU ENJOY WRITING?
- DO YOU WANT TO BECOME A BETTER WRITER?

THEN . . .

Apply to Become a Writing Tutor!

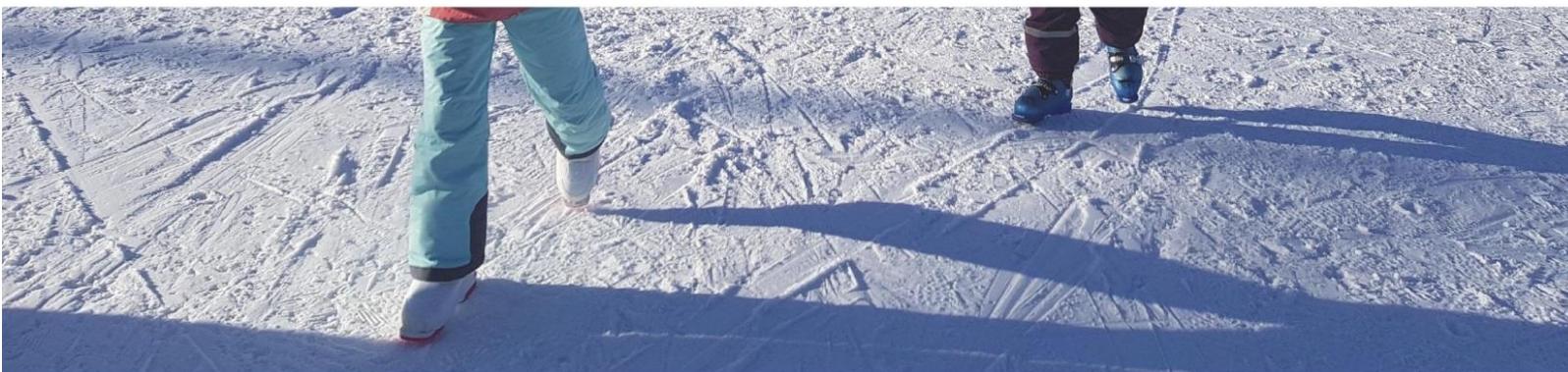
The Writing Center is accepting applications for new tutors.

**GO TO THE BIS WRITING
CENTER WEBSITE FOR INFO.**

Applications due Friday 22 Jan 2021 by 8pm.

[Go to the BIS Writing Center Website to Apply.](#)

BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



WINTER SPORTS DAY

**January 29 2021 | Friday |
Chunkurchak Ski Base**

THANK YOU FROM ALL OF BIS TO THE HAMLING FAMILY FOR THE WONDERFUL BOOKS DONATED TO OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY!

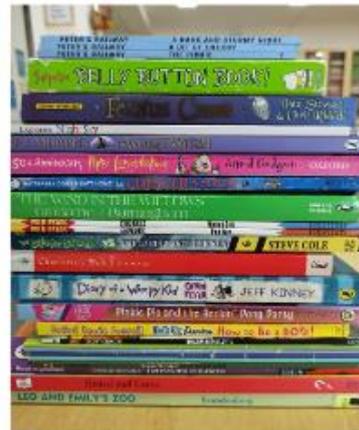
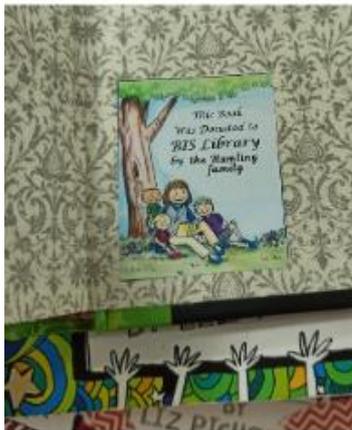
BIS library recently received a gift of 300 new children's books from the Hamling family!

These are amazing collections that would be extremely useful in our Library. The books range from preschool through secondary school including fiction, non-fiction, as well as diverse graphic novels and picture books.

Some of the exciting new arrivals include The Poky Little Puppy book series, The Jacqueline Wilson Collection, The Complete Mr. Men & Little Miss Collection and many other books.

This valuable book collection will hold a special place in our school library!

We are also very thankful to all our families for their continued support. The library could not do what it does without the generous support of a caring community. Thank you again, Hamling family, for your thoughtful gift to the library.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 18-22 January: Parent-Teacher Meetings: Preschool, Primary, Middle and High School
- Friday 29th January: Winter Sports Day
- Friday 12th February: Valentine's Day
- Friday 19th February: Languages in Our Lives Day
- Monday 22nd February: Extra Holiday
- Tuesday 23rd February: Homeland Defender's Day
- Friday 26th February: Science Fair

LUNCH MENU

Please find the updated links for the school menus – [Preschool & Primary School](#), [Middle & High School](#).

The lunch menu for January 13th – 17th 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 students have spent this week learning about winter season. We discussed that it is cold and snowy during this time of the year and we wear very warm clothes like snow jackets, snow pants, mittens, scarf, and hats. We also talked about winter activities and some friends shared their skiing, making a snowman, playing with snow balls experiences with the other friends. Preschool 1 students were also busy making snow on trees with finger prints, painting snowflakes with favorite colors, making a snowman from card boards and ice painting. Our sensory bin was a popular place in the classroom this week; our friends liked to make footprints of different animals on our snow. Together, we pretended to be a snowman and liked to sing “I am a little snowman” song. This week, we also welcomed our new friend Tommaso and had so much fun playing with him. Next week, we will start to talk about animals in more detail.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

We are back to school and ready for new adventures in the world of interesting and exciting things!

The children missed each other a lot and were very happy to meet on the first day of school; they spent a lovely time telling each other about their holidays and the presents they got from Ded Moroz.

This week we also started discussing a new unit of inquiry "How We Organise Ourselves". We are going to talk about kinds of food, why all living creatures need food, where the food comes from and why it is important for a human to choose healthy food.

This week, we talked about fruits and vegetables, asked each other about favourite fruits and vegetables and tried to understand the difference between them. In the morning lessons, we sang lots of songs about fruits and vegetables and used flashcards and educational videos to remember new vocabulary better.

On Wednesday, with Doctor Anna children created plasticine vegetables - tomatoes, broccoli, potatoes, carrots and cabbages. The friends discussed what vegetables they buy in shops with their parents - and that they liked to eat them!

For our Kyrgyz lessons, we have revised shapes and numbers, and made beautiful sunflowers which had numbers on the petals.

Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

We are very happy to see our friends safely back at school for another fun filled term!

We kicked this term off by starting a new Unit of Inquiry. Our new Unit of Inquiry is: *How stories are told and how stories enrich our lives.* We also had a chance to create our very own little book to share with our friends more about our winter break. We had a wonderful time painting our holiday scene on a big piece of paper, and in line with our UOI, Dr. Anna is teaching us to create concertina books! Next week, we will learn about the letter 'M' and we will be looking at ordinal numbers.

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

