



BEREAVEMENT

It is with great sadness that we inform you that our security guard Kanat Chokoev has passed away. Kanat has been the face of our school since 2014, always welcoming everyone at the front gate, always generous and understanding, and exceptionally knowing the names of everyone in the community. He is going to be greatly missed by everyone here. For his family, this is an even greater tragedy, as Kanat leaves his wife (Roza) and five children (Baktiyar, Erbol, Sanjar, Alinur and Alimzhan), the youngest of whom is only 5 years old.



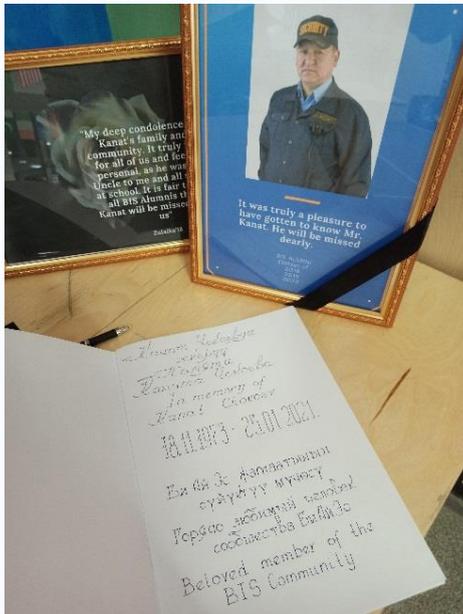
BIS is collecting donations for Kanat’s family from now until Friday 5th March. If you would like to make a donation, please give it to our cashier in the outside Reception. You may also leave any condolence cards with her. If you cannot visit BIS in-person, you may add your [condolences here](#), and if you wish to send money, this is possible via [ELSOM](#) or [bank transfer](#). Both the collected funds and condolence books and cards will be given to Kanat’s family on 5th or 6th March. In spring, we will also plant a tree near the front gate in memory of Kanat and the joy he brought to our lives.

For background information, Kanat died from COVID-19 infection. Kanat was one of two BIS staff who tested positive for COVID-19 when we did PCR tests on 8 January, when Kanat had no symptoms. After 5 days with no symptoms, Kanat felt ill and quickly deteriorated. This was despite visits from medical staff after the diagnosis, and being in hospital for the last week with good treatment. The other staff member who tested positive on 8 January (who works in a different department to Kanat) did not get ill and is already clear of COVID – which demonstrates the complexity of this infection and its unpredictable impact on different individuals.

With deep condolences to Kanat’s family and to everyone whose life he brought happiness to.

David Grant, Head of School





May Allah bless him with the best of the world hereafter and may Allah help his family and give them patience and strength and reward them with the best of both worlds for facing this loss. Ameen
Hamid Khan

Dear Mr. Kanat's family, our hearts are crying today. For us Mr. Kanat was an angel on earth who always welcomed us with a heartwarming smile. We are thankful that we were able to know him. He will be unforgotten. He touched our hearts and souls where he will stay forever. Rest in peace. Hopefully you will find peace while remembering his smile and warm and open heart.
Nadine, Maik and Niklas Erik

To Mr. Kanat's Family

We are truly sorry for your loss. Mr. Kanat always greeted everyone by their names and always had a smile on his face. We are all grieving for Mr. Kanat, we will always remember him with respect. We would like to offer you and your family our deepest and most sincere condolences and may the soul of Mr. Kanat rest in peace. Our prayers and thoughts with you and your family.

With Love
Robiya, Mike, Delilah, Yoral Bowles

Our deepest condolences to Mr. Kanat's family, friends, and colleagues. He was dear to all the parents and children at BIS. He made everybody's day better with his warmth, kindness, and goodwill. We will miss him and always remember him.
Farhad, Anastasiya, and Emil

Уважаемая Роза, примите наши искренние соболезнования. Канат останется в нашей памяти как добрый, отзывчивый, честный, порядочный, и искренне любящий детей человек. Мы всегда будем помнить его улыбку и заботу как первого человека, которого я и моя дочь встретили в стенах школы.
Алина и Алексия Аникина

My most sincere condolences to all of you. In these difficult times, I wish you strength and hope you will find support with each other.
Peter Ormel

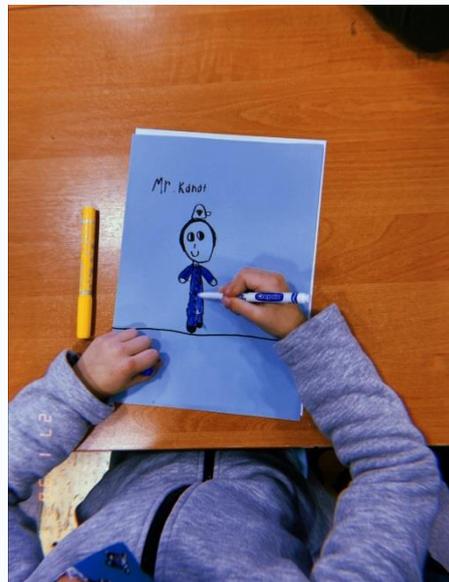
BIS COMMUNITY LOST A GUARDIAN ANGEL. MAY HIS SOUL REST IN PEACE AND MAY GOD PROTECT HIS FAMILY. CAN, VASILIKI AND CENGIZ FIRAT

Dear Kanat's Family,

It was August 30th 2019 when we first took our kids to BIS. That morning I was so sad to leave my kids, who could not speak a word of English, at BIS. And Kanat at the reception was the person who gave us the feeling that our kids would be safe and happy at BIS, with his big smile and warm greeting. I will never forget the positiveness and the reliance he gave that morning. He was a person touching our souls and hearts every time we visited BIS. We will deeply miss him.

Ozgul SALOR-DURNA

Канат байкенин арты кайырлуу болсун, жаткан жери жайлуу болсун, топурагы торко болсун! Жаны бейиштен орун алсын! Маанайы ачык, ак көңүл, асыл адам эле. Ушунча жылдан бери бир тууганга тете болуп калгандай сезилет. Кайрат кылыңыздар!
Кыялбек жана Гүлзат



To Kanat Chokoev's family

Our family extend their condolences and deepest sympathies to you and for Kanat. An integral part of the school we will remember him and hope time heals for your loss.
Love
Keith Barron, Olga and Yaroslava Fedorova

Dear Roza, Dear children of Kanat, Bunne started his school in 2019. The first person we met at school was Kanat, and ever since we had a great pleasure seeing him, and feeling his very warm and welcoming attitude. Kanat definitely was the one who helped our son feel welcomed, and at home in Kyrgyzstan while we are far away from our homeland. Kanat will be greatly missed by all of us. We trust Kanat's children will cherish a warm memory of him and follow his path of kindness and positivity. Bunne's family

Жаткан жериңиз жайлуу жана бейиштин төрүнөн болсун Канат байке



Айкел

Наши соболезнования семье Каната байке. Тяжелая утра. Скорбим вместе с вами. Арты кайрылуу болсун.
Салтанат

Примите наши соболезнования. Всегда будем помнить доброжелательную улыбку Канат байке.
Семья Аманалиевых

Канат навсегда в наших сердцах. И дети и родители его любили за его доброту и искреннюю улыбку.
Семья Хьюстон (Марина, Фред, Карина и Дэвид)

SCHOOL AWARD CEREMONY

On Wednesday 27th January, BIS held our first in-person event with parents in close to a year! Celebrating the achievements of our 2020/2021 Semester 1 Award Winners, a small group of students, parents and BIS staff members met to mark the occasion. We were delighted to be joined by key Founder of the school, all-round creative entrepreneur, dynamic thinker and previous government minister Emil Umetaliev. Emil graced the exclusive audience with a unique and fun speech in which he shared words wisdom with our BIS community.

BIS has five categories of School Awards: Leadership awards; Academic awards; Service awards; Global Citizen awards; and Community awards. Nominations can be made by all staff members, and an Awards Panel consisting of the Management Board and all Programme Coordinators have the tough job of selecting the final award winners. This year, the Awards Panel made BIS history by including BIS Preschool students among the well-deserving award winners. I am delighted to announce that the following BIS students received awards for their Semester One efforts and achievements:

LEADERSHIP AWARDS

- Preschool: **Martha Ryjih**
- Primary School: **Rafael Ilya Koshkin**
- Middle School: **Arseny Rogalskiy**
- High School: **Medina Talasbaeva**

ACADEMIC AWARDS

- Preschool: **Rustam Rakhmatulin**
- Primary School: **Neslihan Durna**
- Middle School: **Aglaia Manno**
- High School: **Linda Mars**

SERVICE AWARDS

- Preschool: **Iman Otorbaev**
- Primary School: **Kamila Petrosian**
- Middle School: **Mete Kobanbay**
- High School: **Alina Ozyardymdzhzy**

GLOBAL CITIZEN AWARDS

- Preschool: **Abbas Akmatatiev**
- Primary School: **Foteini – Anna Karekla**

COMMUNITY AWARDS

- Preschool: **Tiana Toktogaraeva**
- Primary School: **Alan Choibaev**
- Middle School: **Ilona Pasicinicov**
- High School: **Askar Shermambetov**

We are so proud of all of our students' achievements, and this Semester's award winners are a testament to the schoolwide development of intellectual curiosity, achievements across academic, sporting and creative fields, growing confidence in abilities across our student community, and our learners' ever-increasing respect for communities around us and further afield. We wish our award winners continued success and look forward to seeing all our students continue to grow, inspire and succeed as they continue learning at BIS and beyond.



Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies

BIS Snapshot: Student Awards



PRIMARY1 LEARN HOW TO RECYCLE



This week, P1 talked about how we can help recycle the things around us like batteries and crayons. We learned about what type of things use a battery and why it is important not to throw a battery in the regular trash. If you have any used batteries that you want to recycle please send them to school with your children. We also collected used crayons, melted them down, and made fun new crayons! We love our new triangle shape, multi-colored, crayons! :-)

Ms. Kathleen, Primary 1 Homeroom Teacher



P2'S FIELD TRIP TO THE CITY OF PROFESSIONALS



This week, P2 went on an educational visit to the City of Professionals to learn more about the systems of different public spaces! The class was able to pretend to work at the hospital, the police and fire stations, the salon, and got to pretend to fill up a car with petrol.

After working each job, the students earned play money and were able to buy ice cream at the end of their "work" day.

The students had so much fun and did a great job of exploring how public spaces are organized and function within a community.

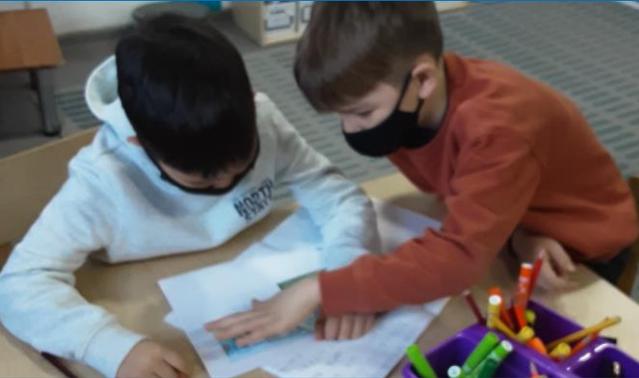
Ms. Shelby, Primary 2 Homeroom Teacher



ENERGY NEEDS

During the week of January 25th, P3 children explored sources of energy for transportation. They inquired into different ways we can get energy. Many made connections that different types of energies impact the environment and humans in different ways, either neutrally or negatively.

Altai and Kolya looking at wind turbines and determining how it generates electricity.



Jess and Cora inquiring into Solar energy use in Bishkek.



Alan and Lemar making inferences about oil and petrol.



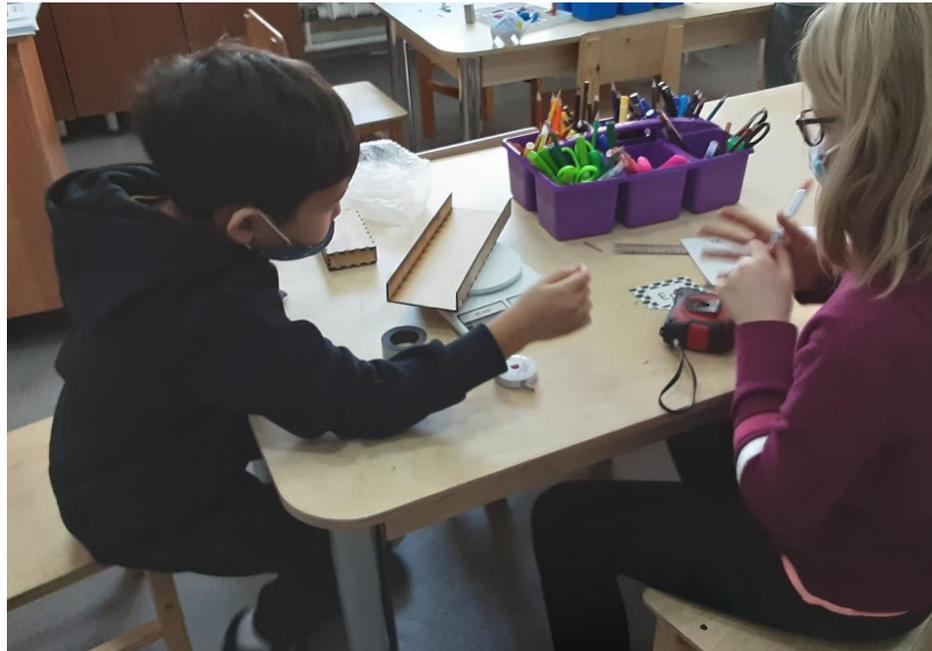
Some are used in Bishkek but many, they realized, are not used here. To many learners' surprise, they learned that Bishkek uses hydropower, coal, and petrol as its main source of energy. Some realized that the main type of energies used in Bishkek for their transport is oil, which is highly polluting. Some challenged this energy status quo:

"Do people want to pollute?" – Jess

"Why do most cars use petrol for its engines? Why were they originally designed using oil, not something else, to power it?" – Sasha

"How can we use and mine oil when it's so bad for our Earth and so many animals! We could use other types of transport that take more time but don't hurt us or the Earth so badly!" – Mia

Ali and Altai inquired into magnetic levitation as a sustainable energy source for transportation. Together with Arya, they began



constructing their own magnetically levitated train using help from Mr. Reza's expertise with the maker space resources. They applied their mathematical skills of precise measurements to ensure the magnetic strips were distanced precisely, and also weighed various resources to test how weight may influence the train's speed and force of motion. They were also able to connect their skills learnt in our science exploration of friction, ensuring the train would not be touching anything while moving.

Ms. Moni, P3M Homeroom Teacher

PRIMARY 4L EXPLORE MATERIALS



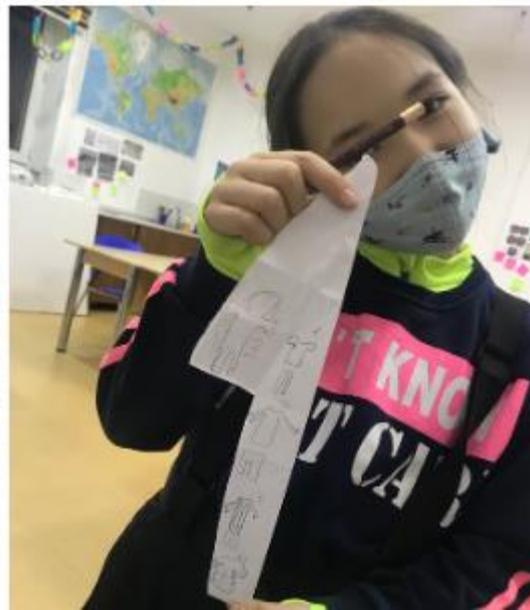
This week, the children made 'gloves' out of different materials to test their insulating properties. The socks and the foil worked well, but you can see how the children problem solved with the sheets of Styrofoam!

Ms. Laura, Primary 4L Homeroom Teacher



Aliya decided to draw all the layers that she was wearing to keep her warm!

Here is Nursamad wrapped up and ready to go to Winter Sports Day!



HAKUNA MATATA

Check out Episode 2 of The Lion King Experience Documentary.

[CLICK HERE TO VIEW EPISODE 2](#)

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

In the story "The Lion King", young Simba (the future King) flees to the jungle and meets Timon and Pumba; two characters who live by the philosophy of "Hakuna Matata".

"Hakuna Matata, it means 'no worries for the rest of your days'".

It is a simple phrase that has deeper meaning. On the surface, it means that worrying or stressing about the problems in your life won't necessarily make the problems solve themselves better or quicker; whether it be finishing your homework by a certain deadline, or choosing which ice cream flavor order, or cleaning your room.

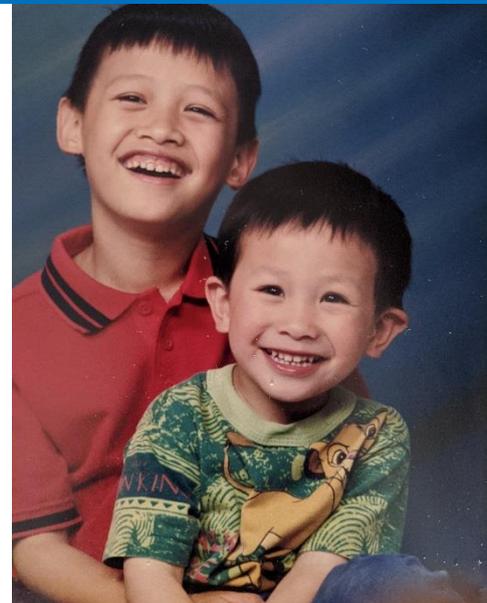
This philosophy especially applies to problems that are out of your control. Stressing about your late bus won't make it arrive sooner. Worrying about the weather won't make the sun come out

However, "Hakuna Matata" does NOT mean 'do what you like' or escaping responsibility. Your actions have consequences. Simba used this philosophy to escape his past; Nala finds Simba and reminds him that he is still the king and has responsibilities to himself and to the livelihood of everybody else in the kingdom.

Or as Rafiki tells Simba later: "Oh yes, the past can hurt. But from the way I see it, you can either run from it, or learn from it."

Everybody holds responsibilities and has challenges to face, and it is our job to try to tackle them. However, worrying or stressing about a problem usually won't make it go away. Hakuna Matata!

Young Mr. David (sitting with his older brother) wearing a Simba shirt and living a problem-free life.



Mr. David Lien, Theatre and Music Teacher, MYP2 Form Teacher

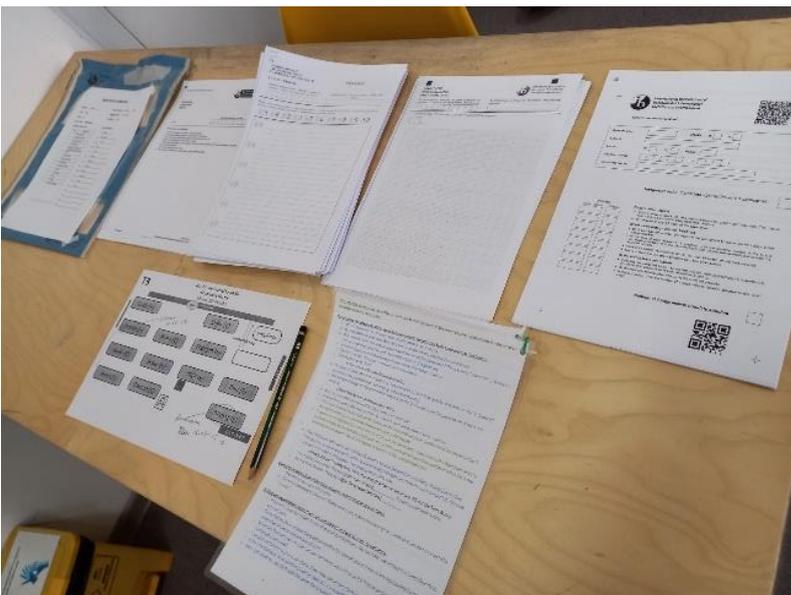
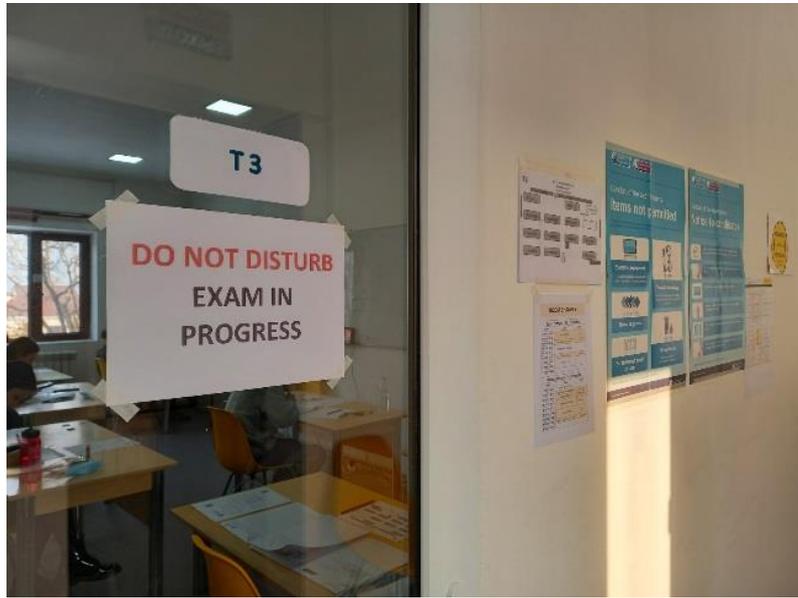
Students and teachers involved with mask making for the Lion King Anniversary show production. Great effort!



DP2 MOCK EXAMS COMPLETED

Many adjustments have been made under the pandemic to examination times, marks and weightings for components of the DP May 2021 examinations by the IBO in order to ensure the continued quality of subject-specific and programme-wide student outcomes (the details can be found [here](#)).

With three months to go before the actual IB paper examinations, we have organized DP mock examinations for DP2 students. We followed the official procedure as much as we could by using



formal instructions, documentations and regulations.

Not only do mock examinations help teachers to see students' overall performance and predict their final results, they also give students opportunities to experience what the actual examinations will be like in terms of duration, tiredness or nervousness that they might feel. DP2 students have been restlessly working on required components of each course such as Internal Assessments (IAs), whilst also keeping themselves busy with university applications. In a month or so, they will be done with almost all of these tasks and focus on preparing for the final May examinations.

Though these coming months will fly, we still have enough time to be fully prepared. Let us – parents, students and staff - support and encourage DP2 students together. COVID-19 forced them to learn online for such a long time last year and made the normal “very challenging IB DP” even harder than usual. We would like to see them be proud of themselves at graduation!

Ms. Makiko, DP Coordinator





**Friday 19th
February**

Languages in our Lives

MYP languages mix-up

**PYP & pre-school languages
scavenger hunt**

**PYP & pre-school taster language
lessons**

**Dress up to show a language or
culture important to you!**

Poetry recitals

Language wall

Languages in BIS video

*Activities for
remote and
in-school
students*

WINTER SPORTS DAY

On Friday, 29th January our students from Primary to High School had Winter Sports Day. It was full of emotions and fun! More photos will be shared in our next Voices.



UPCOMING EVENTS

- 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: STEM Fair Day

LUNCH MENU

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

The lunch menu for February 1st – 5th 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

This week, Preschool 1 friends had another wonderful week learning about animals. At the beginning of the week, we talked about the farmer who takes care of animals by giving them food and cleaning them. Our friends pretended to be farmers and gave food to our farm animals and washed them. While giving them food, we found out that all animals on the farm do not eat the same food. To understand this better, we did a sorting activity where all the animals were divided into three groups: animals that eat hay and green grass, animals that eat all types of grains and animals that eat dry food. Another thing that we discussed during this week were animal's houses. Now our friends know that animals like cows, sheep and horses live in a pen, dogs can live in a kennel or homes and chickens may often live in a coop. Our Preschool 1 students created beautiful kennels for their dog toys. For art, we made a paper cup bunny and carrot with lentils. Towards the end of the week, we had Winter Sports day where we joined to various activities such as snowman bowling, fake snow experiment, and winter photo frame.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

Preschool 2 group continued talking about healthy food choices. The food we eat is very important as it is the building material for our bodies. We usually go to shops to buy some food but never think “Where does the food come from?”. This week, we inquired into the question “Where do the fruits and vegetables we eat come from?”. When we asked children about it, most of them told us: “From other shops”; “They are in shops”; “Come from garden”.

To answer this question in more detail, we read a book about seeds and how people take care of growing plants. We also watched a video about a farmer boy who grows fruits and vegetables on his farm. Some of the children concluded “Fruits and vegetables come from farms” and that was true.

To continue the topic of healthy eating we cooked healthy sandwiches in class using tomatoes, cucumbers, salad leaves, pepper and carrots. Children applied their imagination in creating the sandwiches and made eyes and mouth on the slice of bread.

Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

During this week our preschool friends have been discovering the letter 'n' and its sound. We learned that the letter and sound for n can be found in words like 'noodles', 'nine' and 'nose'. We also enjoyed reading the book "If you give a mouse a cookie". The class agreed that the best part of the story was the mouse so we decided to create our own mouse!

During this week the school experienced a great loss and we tried to explain the loss to our preschool friends. Mr. Kanat was always helping out in the Preschool (carrying the beds, picking up outside toys) so he was a familiar face for our preschool friends. The students created cards for his family in his loving memory; he will be greatly missed by all the members of Preschool.

Next week we'll be learning about ordinal numbers and looking at the letter 'o'!

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

