



**Bishkek  
International  
School**

**VOICES**



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 26 / 2020-21

19<sup>th</sup> March 2021

## **NOORUZ CELEBRATION AT BIS**

Nooruz is celebrated on 21<sup>st</sup> March, on the Spring Equinox Day, and marks the beginning of the New year.

Our school is looking forward to this bright festival. Students and teachers have worked hard to prepare a festive concert. Preschool 1, 2 and 3 performed a national dance “Sardal Kyz”. Students from Primary 1 to Primary 6 sang in chorus a song from the “Darak Yry” movie.

Zeynep and Abai from Primary 6 performed a composition “Tak Teke” on the Kyrgyz national instruments and led by Ms. Saikal. DP students prepared a lively song and a celebratory dance. Teachers also took part in the celebration and prepared a surprise for the guests! They performed a Kyrgyz national dance with soul and spirit!

Mr. David Grant congratulated all the guests with the Spring Equinox Day.

We also want to congratulate you, and the whole BIS community, with a great holiday and a blessed future ahead.

**Ms. Munara, Music Teacher**



## CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our following award winners:

**CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):**

Mariam (IGCSE 2)

**BROC (Balanced, Risk-Taker, Open-Minded, Communicator):**

Emmanouil (MYP3)

Chynybek (DP1)

## PYPX UPDATE!

What an amazing community we have here at BIS! To kick start the PYPX, P6 has been inundated with people sharing their experiences of going above and beyond to help their community. We've heard stories from a range of school staff and have also had zoom calls from students' family members.

The stories of people taking action include teaching literacy to skills young women in Sierra Leone, providing food for doctors during the COVID pandemic here in Bishkek, working to protect wetlands in Turkey, raising awareness for need of inclusion for people with disabilities in Kyrgyzstan, and raising awareness and money to support orphaned children in Tokmok. A huge thank you to everyone who took the time to share their stories. No matter how big or small you feel your action is, it all helps to make our community a better place.

How are the students feeling about the exhibition after all this inspiration?

*"I feel excited and nervous but I really want to tell the world about water pollution!" – Arisha*

*"I'm scared, but I'm also excited, it's going to be great!" – Matilda*

*"I feel excited and really nervous about it. I wish everyone GOOD LUCK! Of course, it will be hard!" – Fatriya*

*"It's very inspiring" – Abai*

**Ms. Rebecca, Primary 6 Homeroom Teacher**



## HOW LIVING THINGS AFFECT ONE ANOTHER



P3 has begun investigating plants and how living beings in a habitat are connected and affect one another. In the first week, we explored how plants reproduce using specially adapted seeds, and learners experimented to determine how different species of plants spread their seeds.

Next, we explored what plant, animal, and human needs are. Learners said we all need sun, so we experimented to decide if plants really need sun by planting radish seeds in the sun, as well as control radishes kept completely out of the sun. We made predictions of the colors of our plants and the height of the stems for seven days post-planting. They were able to apply their math skills and are learning how to use data to compare results with their hypothesis.



Each day, learners have been observing their plants and making note of how much growth and how colorful their plants are. After 6 days, Can, Avi, and Ayla noted that the plants in the dark *"are growing taller, but they don't look healthy."* David noted that the *"sun"* radishes look healthier because *"there is so much more color!"*



Children have also been introduced to the concept of labeling parts of a plant and connecting form to function.





During this exploration, we looked at the inside of one plant stem and Kolya asked "are all plants like this?" so the following day Mr. Zhandos brought in Microscopes where learners were introduced to the concept of plant cells. Many of the learners were so excited to have "super-sight" with the powerful microscopes, and were thrilled to discover that plants basic cells are built just like blocks and Legos!

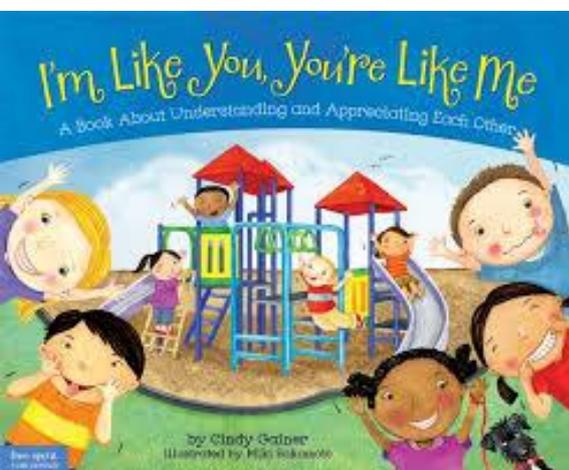
**Ms. Moni, Primary 3M Homeroom Teacher**

## **CELEBRATING DIVERSITY THROUGH READING BOOKS!**

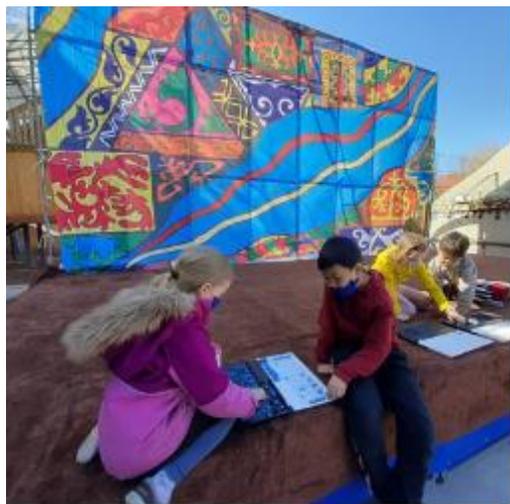
Today, we're continuing to share our Read Aloud videos about Diversity! This next piece comes from Ms Shannon – our Primary 3S Homeroom teacher, who is reading a book called "I'm Like You, You're Like Me: A Book About Understanding and Appreciating Each Other" written by Cindy Gainer and illustrated by Miki Sakamoto.

In this colorful, inviting book, kids from preschool to lower primary learn about diversity in terms they can understand: hair that's straight or curly, families with many people or few, bodies that are big or small. With its wide-ranging examples and fun, highly detailed art, *I'm Like You, You're Like Me* helps kids appreciate the ways they are alike and affirm their individual differences.

Enjoy!



# BIS Snapshot: Nooruz



## CREATIVE WRITING IN P5

Previously: Armoury has gone to enchantment kingdom with her brothers, Zonk and Atsy. The main supply room doors are locked and Armoury turns into a cat, a horse and a bird.



### THE ADVENTURES OF ARMOURY THE SOURCER

Written by Apolline Colburn (P5)

From turning into the animals, Armoury now had the knowledge of a sly cat, a wise horse and a travelling bird. As she said the last words of the spell, there was a loud creak, Atsy jumped, the king and queen held their breath ... and the doors opened!

Meanwhile, Zonk had brewed up an obeying potion. He gave it to a winged lion that would chase Grendel down and bring him to the dungeon of Enchantment Kingdom.

They got the broomstick polish from the main supply room. The king and queen gave them some gifts as thank yous for unlocking the supply room. They gave Atsy the best willow twigs in the kingdom, Zonk a gold, collapsible, self-stirring cauldron and Armoury got a large box of spell boosters. They spent three days of parties, food and fun in Enchantment kingdom. The brothers and sister flew back home, almost bumping into a magic storm. They could almost hear the roaring off the storm as they whooshed by. When they landed in Broomstick Kingdom, Merlin was on the dock waiting for them.

He asked, "Did you have any problems?"

Armoury replied, "A lot!"

Then Zonk added, "But we fixed it!"

Atsy was jumping up and down with excitement when he slipped on a piece of seaweed, landing in the water, with a big splash! Armoury dissolved in giggles as Atsy reappeared on top of the water, spitting water out and looking exactly like a seal.

"We have had quite a trip," chuckled Zonk.

## CHECK OUT EPISODE #5 OF THE LION KING EXPERIENCE DOCUMENTARY



Paul doing a great job painting a Wilder beast mask for the Lion King production

## #LIGHTUPBLUE CAMPAIGN

Autism, or autism spectrum disorder (ASD), refers to a broad range of conditions characterized by challenges with social skills, repetitive behaviors, speech and nonverbal communication. Because autism is a spectrum disorder, each person with autism has a distinct set of strengths and challenges. The ways in which people with autism learn, think and problem-solve can range from highly skilled to severely challenged.

Award Winning and Breakthrough Advocate Kerry Magro, who has autism himself, says: *“Autism is one word trying to describe millions of different stories.”* This quote had a significant impact on me for many reasons but most importantly because it highlights the importance of discussing the ‘spectrum of autism’. A lot of people see autism as a one-size-fits-all and that couldn’t be farther from the truth. There are people like me who after overcoming many obstacles have full-time jobs today but there are also going to be in our autism community who are going to need 24/7 lifetime care.

We invite all students and teachers to wear blue on this day in support of understanding and acceptance for people with autism.

# #LIGHTUPBLUE CAMPAIGN

On April 2, millions of people around the world will celebrate the 14th annual World Autism Awareness Day

**WEAR BLUE ON FRIDAY APRIL 2  
TO RECEIVE 10 HOUSE POINTS**



# #LOTSOFSOCKS DAY



On Friday 19th March, BIS students were encouraged to wear a pair of odd socks to raise awareness of the Down Syndrome and to show that, although we are all different, we are all equal!



## TOTAL HOUSE POINTS SCORE:



**Phoenixes**

**7809**



**PIRANHAS**

**9748**



**SNOW LEOPARDS**

**9950**

## COVID PROTOCOL REMINDER FOR TERM 4

As the weather warms up, as the city continues to operate in a very open manner and as our students and community look forward to the end of the school year, it could be easy to forget the protocol and expectations in place. Following Spring Break, however, please remember that BIS is still operating in Level One of our Covid Protocol. Whilst most students are back to the physical school campus, we will still be providing remote learning for those who need to stay home due to quarantine measures or shielding. Please remember that remote learning is no longer provided for extended vacations. Throughout Term 4, please do keep your children at home if they show any of the following symptoms: fever, dry cough, sore throat, fatigue, body aches, difficulty breathing, diarrhoea, nausea, loss of taste or smell.



Wishing the whole community a restful and safe Spring Break.

**Krishna Gandhi, Head of Studies**

## UPCOMING EVENTS

- Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> March: Nooruz Public Holiday
- 22-26 March: Spring Break
- Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> April: BIS Annual Debate Tournament
- Wednesday 7<sup>th</sup> April: April Revolution Day – public holiday
- Saturday 17<sup>th</sup> April: BIS 10<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Show – Official School Day
- Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> April: Art Exhibition and Poetry Evening
- Saturday 24<sup>th</sup> April: All Parents Meeting – Parents Association
- End of April: IBDP and IGCSE Exam Sessions start

## 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](mailto:info@bis.kg) and our Reception will forward your email to the right person.



## PRESCHOOL 1

The last week of the third term, Preschool 1 students spent time on revising and reflecting the themes that we learned throughout the term. At the beginning of the week, we talked about all the animals that we learned and divided them into two big groups: animals that live on the land and in the air. Our friends demonstrated that they have a good knowledge about the animals and their habitats. The next day, we explored the life cycle of a chicken and discussed different stages in the cycle from a hen laying eggs to chicks who grow with the help food, water, air and a shelter that protects them. In the middle of the week, we enjoyed making caterpillar snacks from apples, peppers, and carrots. Towards the end of the week, we participated in Nooruz celebration and performed a beautiful Kyrgyz dance. Well done, Preschool 1! We wish you a wonderful spring break and see you all soon!

**Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher**



## PRESCHOOL 2

This week, our Preschool 2 group have revised the topics we covered during term 3. We talked about food, its impact on human health and kinds of food in different countries. In the beginning of the week, we traced our bodies on the big papers, colored clothes, stuck eyes, mouth and nose. The children chose food products they like to eat to stick on their bodies. We ask them what they think about junk and good food, and which of these makes us stronger. It was nice to hear that children remembered that healthy food makes us like superheroes - strong and smart. Later in the week, we read a book about life on the farm and talked again about the food products that farm animals share with people and the food the farmers grow in the fields. To strengthen the discussed concepts, we made yellow chickens in their nests which were full of eggs. In the literacy lesson, we learned the letter P, and discovered that p is the initial for such words as pig, pen, pear, playdough and please. Our friends tried to write the letter on the white board and made a nice pig craft to remember the sound. We wish you a relaxing spring break and look forward to seeing you next term ready for new discoveries!

**Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher**



**Making a plate of our favorite food**



### PRESCHOOL 3

The last week of this term has gone by so fast. This week was an extremely busy week for the Preschool 3 friends. This week we learned about the letter "u". To help us remember the letter "u", we made beautiful umbrellas and also had a letter "u" dance party by dancing to the song "Umbrella". We also finished our alphabet books and we did a lot of dancing to practice for Nooruz.

We hope everyone will have a great rest during this break and we hope to see everyone back at school on Monday 29 March. Please stay safe and enjoy your break.

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

