



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 37 / 2020-21

11th June 2021

BIS'S GOT TALENT AND ART EXHIBITION

It was great to be back to live performances after last year's remote version of BIS's Got Talent. This year we combined two major events - BIS's Got Talent and the BIS Art Exhibition.

More than 30 students and teachers shook aside nerves and butterflies in their stomachs to enjoy the excitement of performing to a very receptive and welcoming audience. Ruslan started the show setting the atmosphere with a spirited performance of Bump Up Tomato, and was followed by some 26 more performances by singers, piano players, cello and violin players, dancers, a geography expert, football juggler, comedian and more.



The Art Exhibition which was running concurrently in the Big Hall displayed the incredible colour and variety of the students' art. Visitors browsed various forms of student creativity, and left the event feeling inspired, knowing we have such expressive and talented students. Thanks to all the students who participated! Don't forget to collect any of your art works from Ms. Anna or Dr. Anna before the end of the school academic year.



Videos of BIS's Got Talent performances and Art Exhibits, as well as a number of wonderful video submissions can now be seen at our [BIS's Got Talent Website here](#). Please take a few minutes to enjoy their work!

Dr. Anna and Mr. Grant

MYP2 FIELD TRIP

Like many other classes this past week, the MYP2 class took an overnight trip to the beautiful Chon Kemin and stayed at Ashu Guest House.

The bus ride there was marked with joyous laughter, out-of-tune renditions of "My Heart Will Go On", and a gluttonous amount of snacks. The first activity of our journey was river rafting. Many were frightened, while others were overjoyed, but mostly a mixture of both feelings. To quote many of the students: *"My butt is wet and thought I was going to die"*.

After arriving at the Ashu Guest House, students engaged in many activities such as, drinking tea, swimming, horse riding, playing volleyball, billiards, frisbees, or just innocently spinning bottles. The evening ended with a campfire and smores.

The following day, we went hiking and continued free time to have fun. The two days full of activities wore the students out. And in contrast to the first bus ride, our bus ride home was quiet and many naps were taken.

It is wonderful to have been able to take this trip! It was a memorable trip for everybody. Thank you in addition to Ms. Saikal M. and Ms. Adelia for helping out.



Mr. David Lien, MYP2 Form Teacher



MYP1 FIELD TRIP

MYP1G and MYP1A went on a hike to Alamedin and it was a lot of fun. The goal was to hike to the waterfall and a lot of us made it up there. Most of the hike was pretty flat and easy but the last 20 minutes to the waterfall were very hard. We had to hike straight up. Once we got to the waterfall, we ate lunch then started to make our way down. There was a stream near the waterfall, and almost everyone got their shoes wet. The mountains were beautiful and everyone had a lot of candy with them. There was one part where there was a giant ant hill and if you poked it with a stick, when the stick came out of the ant hill it would have a few ants on it! The drive to the hiking location was pretty long, but it was worth it. I hope that next year MYP1 will do it again.

Sariah Stimmler, MYP1G Student



P4J recording how many and which books they have read.



CPR, BROCK AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our following award winners:

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

Robbie Coppock (P4L)

Sienna Chamberlain (MYP2)

Laura Piana (MYP3)

Eva Aijan Grant (MYP3)

Lea Marti (MYP3)

Aglaiia Manno (MYP3)

Ms Grace Park (MYP3 Form Teacher)

Erik Khaldarov (DP1)

Jingwen (Tanya) Sun (DP1)

Amina Tursalieva (DP1)

Alexander Bazba (DP1)



TAIGANS LEAVERS



WELCOME TO THE MYP!

Our Primary 6 students had a taste of middle school last Friday. Instead of their usual classes, they came to school at 07:50 for form time, learnt about the programme and tried out new languages, Sciences, art and English in new classrooms with new teachers. They also noticed that middle school breaks are not as long! MYP1 helped to give them a good welcome too. They showed some videos they'd made in Design about life in the MYP. Each Primary 6 student was given a buddy from MYP1 who answered all of their questions! The day finished with P6's first experience of Middle and High School Assembly. Well done to everyone who took part. I hope you enjoyed it and I look forward to having your enthusiasm and passion in MYP next year!



Mr. Tim, MYP Coordinator



P6 helping paint for All Americas BBQ next week



STAYING SAFE ONLINE

When teaching online research skills to students, I often find myself saying that 'the internet is wonderful and terrifying in equal measure'. While I'm not entirely sure of the overall balance, it is certainly true that while the internet is a fantastic resource there is a lot out there that we would not want our young people to engage with.

Students need to be taught how to research online, how to find and verify information in a way that enables them to decide who or what to trust, and what to not. In the same way, students need to be taught internet safety so that they can keep themselves safe online.



COVID has seen a further increase in hours spent online as families navigate work, study and staying in touch from their computers, phones and devices. This in turn has led to increased expectations around communication and availability, and the subsequent need to be online. I won't go into the psychological effects of near-constant connectedness to the internet among young people here. The aim instead is to raise awareness among families and young people about what they are doing in the online spaces they inhabit.

It can be difficult to monitor what your child does online. The internet is vast and you can't be everywhere, so it is important to remain open and communicative about the sites they are using and the content they are accessing. Try to be knowledgeable about the potential risks of some of the apps that they might be connected to, and help your child to understand why, for example, certain sites and apps have age restrictions. Don't be afraid to have difficult conversations around issues such as sexting or cyberbullying; it can be tough but having open communication makes the subject less taboo. Help your child to understand that anything they post is permanent and can have an impact on their prospects in the future, and that personal information is personal, and should not be shared.

It may seem overwhelming and it can be - but, as I've already said, the internet can be a fantastic resource if you know where to look. [InternetMatters.org](https://www.internetmatters.org) has put together a wealth of information for parents who are concerned about their child's online presence, and have a set of handy, age-appropriate guidelines for increasing your child's understanding. This is only one resource of many which can help you to begin those conversations with your children.

Internet safety is discussed through our PAWS curriculum and during homeroom and form time, with further focus provided periodically in weekly assemblies. We are committed to staying open and communicative about this subject, in order that we can increase our shared knowledge and understanding and keep our young people safe online.

Disclaimer: Written by someone who does not have TikTok.

Darren Simpson, Head of Student Welfare

S
Stay Safe
Don't give out your personal information to people / places you don't know.

M
Don't Meet Up
Meeting someone you have only been in touch with online can be dangerous. Always check with an adult you trust.

A
Accepting Files
Accepting emails, files, pictures or texts from people you don't know can cause problems.

R
Reliable?
Check information before you believe it. Is the person or website telling the truth?

T
Tell Someone
Tell an adult if someone or something makes you feel worried or uncomfortable.

Follow these SMART tips to keep yourself safe online!

© Teaching Resources Ltd
www.teachingresources.co.uk

The graphic consists of five vertical columns, each representing a letter of the SMART acronym. Each column has a large, colorful letter at the top, followed by the letter's meaning in bold, and then a brief explanation. The columns are: 1. 'S' (Stay Safe) with a blue-to-green gradient, showing an illustration of a man and a woman. 2. 'M' (Don't Meet Up) with a green-to-yellow gradient, showing an illustration of two children. 3. 'A' (Accepting Files) with a yellow-to-orange gradient, showing an illustration of a computer monitor with a sad face. 4. 'R' (Reliable?) with a red-to-purple gradient, showing an illustration of a smiling computer monitor character. 5. 'T' (Tell Someone) with a purple-to-blue gradient, showing an illustration of a computer monitor character with a speech bubble. At the bottom right, there is a small logo for Teaching Resources Ltd.

MIDDLE SCHOOL GRADUATION

On Thursday we had our first ever middle school graduation at BIS. Students, parents and staff joined to celebrate the transition from MYP to IGCSE with a ceremony and a reception. Well done and good luck next year, MYP3!



BIS Snapshot: Reflection Dinner



BIS MUSIC ACADEMY

Thanks to those who asked about BIS's commitment to developing our music programme at last week's All Parents Meeting.

Next school year (2021-2022), BIS plans to start offering one-on-one private instrumental lessons during ECA time. Students will have the opportunity to learn one of the instruments listed below. They can either provide their own or borrow/rent from the school. The BIS Music Academy will offer 30- or 60-minute lessons, taught by an English and/or Russian speaking teacher.

Why learn an instrument?

Besides learning a new (potentially lifelong) skill and passion, there are numerous other benefits that you can read about [HERE: "9 Benefits of Music Lessons"](#). These include academic benefits, social benefits, and motor skills.

The long-term goal is for BIS to build various music ensembles, including Komuz ensemble, orchestra, jazz band and other smaller instrumental ensembles.

If your child is interested in joining our new Music Academy, please take [this 3-5 minute survey](#).

If you have any questions, please contact Mr David (dlien@bis.kg) or Mr. Grant (gchamberlain@bis.kg)



Piano is a great starter instrument for any age!

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P1 and up.



The **Trumpet** is a brass instrument.

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P5 and up.



Saxophone! Most commonly known for Jazz music, the saxophone is a popular woodwind instrument for

students in school.

It is recommended for students from P5 as the weight of the instrument is held up using a neck strap, which can be too heavy for younger students.

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P5 and up.



The **Drum set** is a rhythm instrument that provides the beats for many other types of music. It is a loud instrument that

requires coordination.

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#)

Drum sets are big and ownership is a big commitment. Coordination is often difficult; as such the drum set is suggested for MYP1 and up.



Violin is a string instrument played with the instrument and the bow. The instrument is expressive, small, light, and plays high

notes!

[Video 1](#)

[Video 2](#) (also in the video is a guitar and an upright bass)

Viola is very similar to the Violin, but it is slightly bigger and slightly lower in pitch.

[Video 1](#)

Suggested for P1 and up.



The **Recorder** is a good option for younger students who are interested in moving on to a bigger woodwind instrument in the future - many of the skills learned on this instrument are transferable to flute, clarinet or saxophone.

[Video 1](#) (There are many recorders of all sizes! In this video you will also see cellos, violins, basses, trombones, a guitar, an electric bass, and a drummer)

[Video 2](#) (Playing with the recorder is a guitar)

Suggested for P1 and up.



Ukulele is a 4-stringed instrument, popular for its simplicity and portability. It is a great instrument for playing chords.

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P1 and up.



Trombone is also part of the “brass family”. It is played by moving the slide up and down. It plays low notes.

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P5 and up.



The **Electric Bass** is similar to the Upright Bass, but it is smaller, played sideways, and not played with a bow. It is often found in popular contemporary music today!

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P5 and up.



Voice/Singing is a universal and expressive instrument. Everybody can sing! In voice lessons, you will learn how to healthily control your

voice, and extend the skills of your voice.

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P1 and up.



Guitar is a 6-stringed instrument. It is an instrument that can do a lot from playing chords in a pop song or play delicately.

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P4 and up.



Komuz is a 3-stringed traditional Kyrgyz instrument. It is played as a solo instrument or in a bigger ensemble.

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P5 and up.



Cello! If you like sitting down, this is the instrument for you.

The cello (or called the violoncello) is like a big violin with lower notes. It is most often found in the orchestra. It is a very expressive instrument; it can be loud and fast, or slow and beautiful, or scary, or sad!

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P1 and up.



Clarinet is another woodwind instrument, noted for its incredible range (low and high notes) and its relative ease of playing, despite its many keys.

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

(Clarinet is in the middle. Trumpet on the left. Guitar on the right).

Suggested for P3 and up.



The **Flute** is a lightweight, portable wind instrument. Great for students of all ages!

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Suggested for P5 and up.



The **Upright Bass** is a big instrument. Like the other string instruments, you don't have to be big to play the bass, as instruments come in smaller sizes too.

The bass is a staple instrument for many types of music ensembles and genres.

[Video 1](#)
[Video 2](#)

Because of the bigger size, this instrument is suggested for P6 and up.

REPORTS AND PARENT TEACHER MEETINGS

**End of Semester Reports
are now available online
on Managebac!**



All parents received an email notification today to access End of Semester Reports. If you did not receive this, please double check your spam folder before contacting managebac@bis.kg for any further help in accessing these.

Sign-up for PTMs will open from Monday 14th June at 08:00. Sign-up will close on Thursday 17 June at 09:30.

All information and links needed to sign up can be found [here](#). Before signing up, please spend time this weekend reading through reports thoroughly. BIS reports are extremely comprehensive and a lot of information has been provided by our teaching team. If you have any additional questions, concerns or comments to discuss with relevant teachers about your child's progress, please sign up to the PMTs next Thursday. If you do not have any additional questions about your child's report, there is no need to sign up for PTMs.

Parents of P5-MYP3 students, you will have also received an additional link for Individual ISA Reports and the BIS ISA Informational Letter which have also been uploaded to ManageBac today. If you have any questions about these for Coordinators or teachers, PTMs can also be used to discuss these.

Krishna Gandhi, Director of Studies

RAT POUR LES RICHE – RATS FOR THE RICH: (CONTINUED)

HOMME A LA PORTE. Ouvre la porte! Je représente une petite portion du gouvernement de Russie, j'ai besoin de passer un message à Alexandre Rogalinski et Anastasia Rogalskaya. Je m'appelle Linus Novikov.

ANASTASIA. Ouvre la porte, Alexandre. Vite.

ALEXANDRE [*ouvrant la porte*]. Je suis Alexandre. [*Il montre Anastasia*]. Elle, c'est Anastasia, mon épouse.

ANASTASIA. Bonjour. Qu'est-ce qu'il y a?

LINUS [*montrant sa badge et identification*]. Voilà, vous pouvez me faire confiance. [*Linus tend une enveloppe à Alexandre*]. Tenez, prenez cette enveloppe et je reviendrai demain pour votre décision finale.

Linus part avant que Alexandre et Anastasia ne puissent poser leurs questions. La porte claque derrière lui, et la famille retourne à la cuisine.

SOFIA. Maman, Papa, il faut l'ouvrir!

ALEXANDRE [*ouvrant l'enveloppe dans sa main*].

C'est quoi?

ANASTASIA. Peut-être qu'ils veulent que tu reviennes au travail

ALEXANDRE, *sortant la lettre, lisant la à haute voix.*

Chère Alexandre Rogalinski et Anastasia Rogalskaya,

Le mois dernier vous avez perdu votre revenu, et c'est le même pour des milliers d'autres hommes et femmes en Russie, à cause de la révolution. On ne peut pas vous redonner votre travail, mais on peut vous suggérer une petite opportunité d'un nouveau travail. Le capitalisme est la forme de gouvernance principale au moment, alors vous avez seulement deux choix au moment; se transformer en rat, toute votre famille, ou mourir à cause de la pauvreté. Si vous ne devenez pas des rats pour les riches, vous n'aurez plus jamais de travail - alors vous n'aurez plus d'argent et vous et vos enfants mourront. C'est votre choix.

A la fin de la lettre il y a la place où les parents peuvent laisser leur signature et consacrer leur vie à travailler pour les riches, et pour ça leur seule option est de devenir rat.

24 heures plus tard

La famille est dans la cuisine, comme d'habitude. Ils venaient de finaliser leur décision, et seulement des minutes plus tard ils entendaient la même frappe à la porte que d'hier.

ALEXANDRE, se levant de sa chaise, marchant à la porte d'entrée.

On est là

LINUS [*ouvrant la porte*]. Vous avez pris une décision? Donnez-moi du papier.

ANASTASIA. Oui, on sait ce qu'on doit faire.

LINUS [*lisant leur message sur le papier*]. Très bien.

Au moment où Linus Novikov a fini de lire, tous les membres de la famille sont devenus tout petits. Leurs vêtements sont devenus minuscules, tout comme ceux de leur corps, et une fois qu'ils étaient vraiment petits, ils sont devenus des rats. Ils suivirent Linus en dehors de la maison. La famille pouvaient voir des milliers d'autres rats quand il les emmenait dans les usines de travaux forcés, où ils travaillaient pour les riches, parce qu'ils étaient pauvres, petits rats, pour les grands, riches capitalistes.

MAN AT THE DOOR: Open the door! I represent a small portion of the government of Russia. I need to send a message to Alexander Rogalinski and Anastasia Rogalskaya. My name is Linus Novikov.

ANASTASIA: Open the door, Alexander. Quickly.

ALEXANDRE [*opening the door*]: I am Alexander. [*He points towards Anastasia*]. She is Anastasia, my wife.

ANASTASIA: Hello, what's the matter?

LINUS [*showing his badge and identification*]: Here, you must trust me. [*Linus hands Alexander an envelope*]. Take this envelope and I will come back tomorrow for your final decision.

Linus leaves before Alexander and Anastasia can ask their questions. The door slams behind him, and the family returns to the kitchen.

SOFIA: Mom, Dad, we have to open it!

ALEXANDER [*opening the envelope in his hand*]: What is it?

ANASTASIA: Maybe they want you to come back to work.

ALEXANDRE [*taking out the letter, then reading it aloud*]: Dear Alexandre Rogalinski and Anastasia Rogalskaya,

Last month you lost your form of income, and the same for thousands of other men and women in Russia, because of the revolution. We can't give you back your job, but we can suggest a small opportunity for a new job. Capitalism is the main form of governance at the moment, so you only have two choices; you may turn into a rat, your whole family, or die because of poverty. If you don't become rats, you will never have a job again - then you will have no more money and you and your children will die. It's all your choice, you may choose not to answer the door tomorrow when we come to pick it up, or do.

At the end of the letter there was room to leave their signatures and devote their lives to working for the rich.

24 hours later

The family is in the kitchen, as usual. They had just finalized their decision, and only minutes later they heard the same knock on the door as the day before.

ALEXANDRE [*rising from his chair, walking to the front door*]: We're here

LINUS [*opening the door*]: Have you made your decision? Pass me the envelope.

ANASTASIA [*passing the envelope to Linus*]: Yes, we have.

LINUS: Very good.

By the time Linus Novikov finished reading their comments and final decision, all the members of the family immediately shrunk. Their clothes became tiny, just like their bodies, and once they were really small, they became rats. They followed Linus out of the house. The family could see thousands of other rats when he took them to the forced labor factories, where they worked for the rich, because they were poor little rats, for the big, rich capitalists.

Delilah, MYP 3 Student

PRESCHOOL AND PRIMARY SPORTS DAY

MONDAY 14TH JUNE

PRESCHOOL WILL HAVE A WATER MORNING!

PRIMARY SCHOOL WILL HAVE A WATER AFTERNOON!

***LET'S GET ACTIVE AND MAKE A
SPLASH!***

Students should bring a spare pair of clothes, a towel and their house point spirit! Students can also bring swimwear if they prefer.

REMOTE LEARNING STUDENTS

ARE WELCOME TO JOIN THIS FUN OUTSIDE ACTIVITY SO LONG AS A SPRAVKA HAS BEEN SUBMITTED.



BIS COMMUNITY FUN-RUN & CROSS COUNTRY RACES

Middle School XCcountry
race at **10:00**

High School XCcountry
race at **10:45**

Fun-Run/Primary at
11:45

Fun-Run/Adults at
12:00

HOUSE COMPETITION!



**SATURDAY, JUNE 12TH, KARAGACHEVAYA ROSCHA,
9:00 -13:00**

All Americas Barbecue

Thursday, June 17

17:00-21:00

Program:

Semester Awards
Carnival Show, Prizes
Fandango Band
Burgers, Hot Dogs and Drinks
Fresco & Pingui Ice Cream
Fireworks

All BIS Community is invited!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- Saturday 12th June: Cross-Country Tournament
- Monday 14th June: Preschool and Primary School Water Sports Day
- Tuesday 15th June: Preschool 3 Graduation
- Wednesday 16th June: Primary 6 Graduation **and last day of classes**
- Thursday 17th June: Parent-Teacher Meetings
- Thursday 17th June: All Americas Barbecue
- Friday 18th June: Teacher In-Service Day

LUNCH MENU

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

The lunch menu for June 14th – 16th 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 talking about musical instruments. On Monday, we discussed xylophones, drums, guitars, maracas and pianos and tried to play on each of them. Another day, we made musical shakers from paper rolls and filled them with different materials such as beads, rice, beans and corn. We discovered that each item makes its own sound! In the middle of the week, we created a rainbow water xylophone. For this activity, we used jars, water and food coloring. First, we filled each jar with colorful water. Afterwards, we tried to play on them by using metal, wooden and hard plastic reusable chopsticks and sang our class favorite rhymes. Towards the end of the week, we were playing on our guitars that we made out of paper plates and card boards and painted our favorite musical instruments outside. We also wanted to thank Mr Grant for sharing these amazing musical instruments with us!

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week, the Preschool 2 group has talked about ways of decreasing environmental pollution. Together with friends we found out that 3 magic Rs can change the world - reduce, reuse and recycle. The children were super interested in it because they worry about the animals which suffer from pollution. Every morning almost all students were reporting that they saw plastic bags on the ground, plastic bottles thrown by people in the street and other trash items which were laying on the grass. We supported children to notice things which are around them and which actually should not happen. We found out that people can stop making too much trash by using cloth bags instead of plastic bags when they go to the shop, use personal water bottles instead of buying plastic water bottles, and use the second side of white paper sheets instead of throwing them in the trash. Throughout the whole week we turned our reusing trash ideas into life. We created pencil cups from toilet paper rolls, bird feeders from used juice packs, we sorted colored rice and pasta into glass jam jars, and made bus toys out of paper milk packs. I am super proud of my students who changed their point of view and decided to take good care of nature and animals. While preparing lessons this week for my students a saying came to my mind and has stayed since. It goes: "Children can make a world of difference" and I hope our students are these children!

Ms. Oksana, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

As we are ending our year with our wonderful Preschool 3 group, we had an opportunity to visit the kindergarten (Primary 1) class. The Preschool friends had a lot of fun looking at all the interesting toys in the class as well as seeing the locker room and bathroom. The friends are very excited about all the new things awaiting them next year. We also created a wonderful Preschool memory book with pictures, handprints, and songs. Next week will be our Preschool graduation and we cannot wait to see all our wonderful Preschool 3 families.

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

