



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 4 / 2021-22

17th September 2021

GRADE 11 TRIP TO NARYN

On the morning of the 9th of September, DP1 Students departed for a 2 day trip to Naryn! On the first half of the very first day, students paid a visit to Kochkor Village, where they saw and became familiar with national Shyrdak production. One of the craftswomen gave a brief introduction to the students about Shyrdak and national patterns.

Later on, students moved into the cozy guesthouse where they got a few minutes of comfortable relaxation. Mr. Andrew and Ms. Nina along with the guide took the students on a walk around the capital city of the Naryn Oblast. Everyone was involved and found out about the history of the city and visited interesting local sights. When evening came around, the supervisors entertained the students with many different board games where they could find out more about each other and bond together as a group.

Koshoi Korgon, an ancient fortress, where according to local legends, Manas' men gathered in the very same fortress, was visited by DP1 Students the next morning. A museum located near the fortress helped the





students to find out more about the ancient life of Kyrgyz men. To make the adventure even more entertaining, a visit to a caravansary was awaiting our students, Tash-Rabat, which is 3600m above sea level! The memorial built in the 15th century, amazed the exploring Students who made their way discovering new facts about the caravansary. On the way back, DP1 visited At-Bashy, “horse-head”, finishing their journey with a group picture. The 2nd evening was meant for the students to pay a visit to the Naryn museum where they were able to try one of Kyrgyz national foods - boorsok. Next day, a road trip back to BIS awaited 27 explorers.

Special thanks to our form teachers and supervisors who made the trip possible for us to visit Naryn, find out more about the culture of Kyrgyzstan and bond with our new classmates before a very hardworking year in the IB begins.

Elina and Aidan, Grade 11 Students

GRADE 6 OVERNIGHT TRIP TO ISSYK KUL

I really enjoyed the whole trip, but I want to mention that most of all I liked swimming in the Issyk Kul; even though the water was very cold, I easily got used to it. I also very enjoyed Kyrgyz national music, I think it was the best traditional music in my life, they played komyz, vargan and other traditional music instruments. Also there was a small girl playing the Komuz who that was younger but ten times better than me.

Veronica, Grade 6 Student

The trip was extremely fun. One of the best parts of the trip was the eagle hunting. We really enjoyed watching the eagle fly and see the Taigan run very fast. The horse riding was very fun and we went very far and it was a great experience. Thanks a lot for the trip, BIS.

Abai, Grade 6 Student

We recently went on an overnight trip to Issyk Kul and we would like to share our experience with you all. When we took off on our bus we were full of long lasting energy, but after that we found out that our so-called “long lasting energy” wasn’t so long lasting :\ We listened to music on the bus, and, yeah that’s pretty



much all we did, but the moment we got there the real fun began. We immediately went off to the beach and started to swim. Some of us could not swim so we played in the sand. After swimming we went in our yurts, OMG right? they were so cool, after that we went eagle and taigan watching and my gosh! They were breathtaking, then we did some archery which was pretty fun too and we had our dinner and a campfire. Yay, how fun! We ate some smores the next day we woke up, had our breakfast and then we went horse riding which was also very fun!



The best part is we went hiking in the fairytale canyons. It was a magical view from the top then we went horse riding which was also very fun!

Matilda and Izma, Grade 6 Students

GRADE 8 TRIP TO ISSYK KUL

This Monday and Tuesday, the Grade 8 students went on an overnight trip to the south shore of beautiful lake Issyk Kul.

The bus journey there included plenty of singing, and some precessional snacking from some participants!

We made it to the village of Kyzyl Tu where they learned all about how yurts are made, and even help to construct them! The good news is that they were all still standing by the time we left after tea and boorsok in the shaded orchard.

After lunch, there was some free time by the lake shore, and many of the students enjoyed a chilly dip! Then after dinner, they heard some amazing singing and instrument displays as the sun went down on the lake shore.

Campfire and allllllllll the marshmallows was almost the undoing for some! But everyone managed to get some rest so that on day two they could enjoy the incredible display of traditional eagle hunting. It was a fas-



cinating insight into a very old tradition and the relationships between man and beast.

Finally, there was a short hike at the picturesque Fairytale Canyon, then a peaceful bus ride home, which may or may not have included more snacking



The students were amazing, and Mr Tim and Ms Nurzhamal helped to make it all run smoothly for all concerned!

Ms. Laura, Grade 8 Form Teacher



**Grade 7Y came back from the trip to Chon-Kemin this week.
It was a great trip and the kids enjoyed their time together.**



CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our following award winners:

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):

Maiko (Grade 4 Blue), Bilim (Grade 5), Aruuke (Grade 11Y)

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

Aibek (Preschool 2), Ernest (Grade 4Yellow)

KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinker, Inquirer):

Ayan (Grade 9), Arif (Grade 10)

NEW FACES AT BIS: MS MICHAELA

A big hello to the BIS community! I am excited to be starting the 21/22 school year with BIS as a Homeroom Teacher for Grade 1. I just moved to Bishkek over a month ago and am enjoying getting to know the city, as well as the international and local communities here in Kyrgyzstan.

Originally from the countryside of Canada, I have now lived abroad for six years in England and Norway. During my time in Norway, I graduated with a degree in International Teaching for Primary Schools. Through my time abroad I have had the opportunity to work in international schools in The Philippines, Cuba, Norway and Canada. I'm excited to bring my experiences into BIS and learn more from such a thriving international community here in Bishkek.

In my spare time, I like to travel whenever and wherever I can and have visited over 40 countries. When possible I volunteer in countries to be able to better immerse myself in different cultures and meet new people around the world. I have volunteered in Hungary, Poland and the Czech Republic teaching in English summer camps. When I'm not travelling, I like to snowboard in my spare time just for the fun of it. Come wintertime, I hope to join the BIS ski team and spend time in the gorgeous mountains of Kyrgyzstan.

I am excited to finally be somewhat emerging from COVID-19 times and am very pleased to be back in the classroom. Being back and in person allows me to plan my lessons with engaging activities that keep the students interested in all of our varying topics throughout the year. I am thrilled to again be working within the PYP curriculum as the concept of transdisciplinary learning is one that I resonate best with. I believe students learn best when they are able to inquire, actively participate, as well as see the connections to all aspects of their educational environment. Students that learn within an inquisitive nature also encourage us as teachers to be a lifelong learner as their questions and curiosity push us to learn more with them. I am excited to be teaching and learning with all my students in Grade One blue and embark on what I know will be an engaging year with students, staff and parents alike!



Ms. Michaela, Homeroom Teacher for Grade 1

BIS Snapshot: School Field Trips



OUR BIS MUSIC ACADEMY IS NOW OFFICIALLY UP AND RUNNING!



Around 40 music lessons per week are given by 10 conservatory trained music teachers to some very happy and enthusiastic young musicians! BIS students are now learning guitar, ukulele, flute, drums, cello, violin, bass, voice and piano! We still have a number of open time slots for lessons - if any students are still interested please contact us on musicacademy@esca.kg



BIS SPORTS DAY – FRIDAY 24TH SEPTEMBER

We will be having our third BIS Sports Day for Grade 4 to 12 students on Friday, September 24 at Spartak Stadium. Friday is a regular school day and the morning buses will operate as usual. Students will then be taken from BIS to Spartak Stadium using school busses from 08:15.

Students must have a signed [Consent form for this event which can be found here](#).

Please print it out, sign it, and email it to me with a due date on Monday, September 20. If you have already done so, there is no need to do it again.

More information regarding our Sports Day event can be found [here](#).

If you would like to be a parent volunteer for the event, please let me know by replying to this email and I will keep you informed.

If you have any more questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Please note, **no academic lessons will take place on Sports Day**.

Track & field events for secondary students are:

- Running (100, 400, 800 and relay 4x100)
- Jumping (Long jump)
- Throwing (Shot put)

Primary students will be competing in:

- Running (60, 100 and relay 4x100)
- Jumping (Standing long jump)

Zeljko Jovetic, Head of Physical Education, Athletics Director





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Asia Day Festival



Travel around Asia with BIS Asia Day Festival celebrations where you can encounter Asian food, performances, music and much more!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 18th September, Saturday: Asia Day Festival
- 24th September, Friday: Upper Primary & Middle & High School Sports Day
- 13th October, Wednesday: Individual Parent-Teacher Meetings
- 15th October, Friday: UN Day at BIS

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for September 20th – 24th is **Menu A**.

Our school menu is available [here](#). 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 we talked about "My Family". To make it clearer for the children, we asked the questions, "How many people are in your family?", They also showed their photos and spoke them by name. Then the children decorated the houses and they glued their family photos. The next day we sang the song "We are family" for this song we used the game "Find My Family Sensory Bin", where we put rice in a container and hid the family members there, after that the children had to find the family members and match them with realistic photos. To develop hand motor skills, we drew a family tree using fingerprints and then decorated it with family photos. We also read books and the most interesting stories that the children really liked were "I love my mom", "Lama lama I love you", "My Dad", "Spot Loves his Mom".

The last day of the week was the most amazing thing, we sang the song "Finger family" and played in the animated puppet theater "My family" and our kids were happy and cheerful. A very interesting and informative week has passed.

Next week we will be talking about "Friendship".

Ms. Tina, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week, Preschool 2 students have been learning about personal hygiene and taking care of body parts. We talked the importance of personal hygiene in our daily routines and discussed that taking a good care of our body helps us to be healthy. We talked that there are many germs around us and they can be everywhere-on our hands, on the toys and on our clothes. To better understand this, we made an experiment with our toys. We looked all our toys through magnifying glasses and found a bunch of small germs. We came into the decision that it is essential washing hands and taking a bath because there can be a lot of germs that are not seen easily. In the middle of the week, we talked about germs that can be on our stomach through consuming some foods. To better understand, we looked at pictures of people who get a stomachache because of germs inside. Our friends promised that they will wash fruits and vegetables before eating. To remember this, we decided to start it in our class. Together, we washed all the fruits and our friends made their yummy fruits skewers. Towards the end of the week, our friends talked about cavity care and practiced our teeth brushing skills on the mouth full of teeth that covered with germs. The teeth were clean again! In Art lesson, our friends made their own face together with Miss Anna! Well done, Preschool 2!

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week our Preschool 3 friends learned about the letter 't'. We had our first cooking lesson in Preschool 3, we made letter 't' toast with butter and the Preschool 3 friends enjoyed watching the toast turn brown!

We all enjoyed the smell and taste of our toast!

We also made a letter 't' train with numbers on the cabins, arranging the numbers in order from 1 to 5, before the trains can leave the station!

Finally, we had a great time making Cherry Blossom flowers for Asia Day while we also learned a new game: pass the bean bag (a great way to learn about teamwork and improve focus).

Next week we will learn about letter l, continue to work on our pencil grip and cutting skills, learn more numbers 1 to 8, and we will continue with our unit on Friendship.

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

