



ON THE TRAIL OF THE ANCIENT CITIES OF KYRGYZSTAN

Last week, Grade 10 students went on an educational trip to the ruins of the ancient cities of Dzhul, Nevaket and Balasagyn.

The first place we visited was the ruins of the city of Dzhul, the center of this place was located in the region of Bishkek, today it is called the Blacksmith Fortress. This city has been referred to as Dzhul in historical writings since the 7th century. The settlement was part of the Great Silk Road, therefore, representatives of the western and eastern merchant classes often stayed there. Archaeologists are still uncovering the secrets of this place. Thanks to their excavations, we can be sure that the urban civilization on the territory of Bishkek is not 143 years old, but 1500 years old!

Our second place was the ruins of Nevaket - according to historians, it is an ancient city which was a transit point on the Great Silk Road and existed in the 7th-12th centuries. The settlers were representatives of different nationalities - Sogdians, Turks and Karluks, and different confessions - Buddhists, Muslims, Christians and Zoroastrians.

And the last place of our trip was the well-known Burana settlement, the territory of this place was the capital of the Karakhanid Khanate from the 10th to the 14th centuries. We visited the local museum and, according to tradition, climbed the Burana tower.

By the end of the day, the students were tired, but received a lot of information and were able to apply all the knowledge acquired during their classes.

Ms Saikal, Host Country Studies Teacher



CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our following award winners:

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):

Kamila (Grade 1B), Ailin (Grade 3B)

KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinker, Inquirer):

Roman (Grade 2Y), Daiana (Grade 9)

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

Aimar (Grade 3B), Medina (Grade 11B)

IGCSE 2 CRAZY FUN LOCK-IN PARTY



At the start of this term, we started to think of more class bonding activities and we decided to have a lock-in party in school. We thought it would be a fun experience and we will spend a good time together. It took a long time for us to organize it (with a few postponements) and finally the day came. For the first hour, we were waiting for some of our classmates to come and while they were coming we played cards and some of our classmates played video games.

When all of our classmates arrived we went to the big hall, turned on the music and began dancing, and a few others watched a movie. Everything went well, everyone enjoyed our overnight event. Big thanks to Dr. Alisher and Ms. Artika for helping to organize this event. By the way, after the event all of us became more close and friendly.

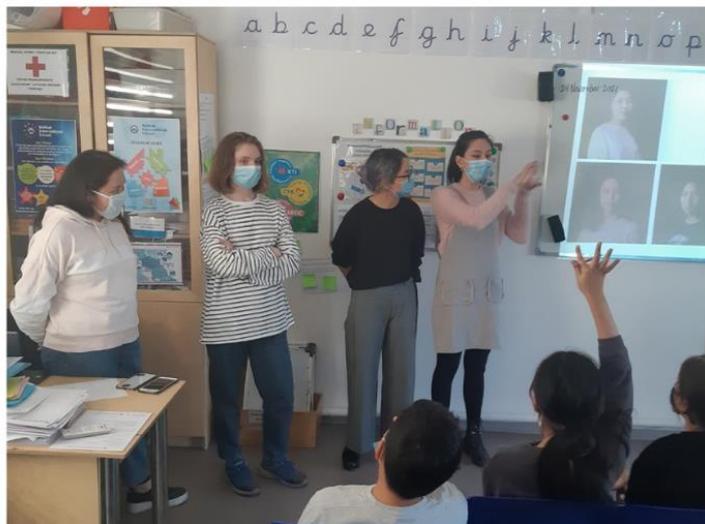
Aisha and Elshat, Grade 10 students



SHARING THE PLANET: WOMEN IN STEM

On Wednesday four members of the all female Kyrgyz Space Program paid Grade 4 Blue and Yellow a visit to talk about their project: building and potentially launching Kyrgyzstan's first satellite.

If you want to follow the Kyrgyz Space Program's progress, please visit their Instagram page [@kyrgyzsatellite](#), or [patreon.com/kyrgyzspaceprogram](https://www.patreon.com/kyrgyzspaceprogram).



NEW FACES AT BIS: MS SHELLEY

Hello BIS community! My name is Shelley King, and I joined the school this year as a grade 4 homeroom teacher. I'm originally from Durban, a vibrant city on the east coast of South Africa. I have been in Bishkek now for three months and have been pleasantly surprised by its beauty. Having spent the last three years teaching in the Middle East, I can't get enough of the tree-lined streets, and parks on every corner.

Prior to becoming a teacher, I worked in the motor industry as a product planner, first at Toyota and then Land Rover. I sometimes wonder how I managed to spend hours sitting in front of a computer wondering about the cost implications of adding satellite navigation, or whether adding colour-coded bumpers and mirrors would really give us a significant competitor advantage. It was quite a shock to my friends and family, and myself included, when I decided to step away from the corporate world. I completed a Masters in Social Science and then a Postgraduate Diploma in Education. It was a major change, but the best decision I have ever made.

In my free time I enjoy reading, watching documentaries and crocheting. I'm looking forward to spring and an opportunity to explore Kyrgyzstan.



Ms. Shelley, Grade 4B Homeroom Teacher

WINTER SMOG IN BISHKEK

Bishkek has reasonably good air throughout summer but as soon as the winter heating season starts, we are condemned to breathing filthy air if we are outside. Coal burning in homes and the power station is the main source of this pollution. Kyrgyzstan burnt around four times as much coal in 2020 as it did twenty years ago. The population of Bishkek also increased by 35% over 20 years, so the amount of coal burnt in Bishkek is now at least 5 times more than 20 years ago, when air pollution in Bishkek was a minor issue. Poor air quality is a major health risk for everyone, especially our children. We are at risk from November to March, with temporary respite when we get strong winds, and extremely bad conditions when we have no wind and have a temperature inversion trapping dirty air in the city.



At BIS we have HEPA air filters in every room to keep the AQI below 50 inside the building. [A PurpleAir monitor in the library is online here](#). We also have a [PurpleAir monitor outside in the playground](#). This [map also shows other PurpleAir monitors in the city](#), including one at the US Embassy. The official [US Embassy air quality monitor is here](#).

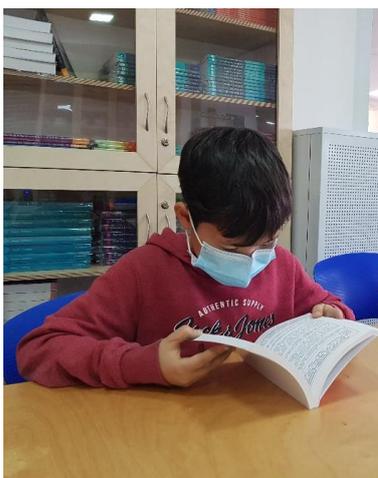
We check all rooms and corridors daily for the AQI level to make sure air filters are working correctly, including the HEPA filters on air intake systems. Inevitably, ventilation priorities for COVID-19 compromise internal air AQI, as windows can now be open until outside AQI reaches 100, whereas before COVID-19 the limit was 50.

The [BIS Air Quality policy is here](#). Children with asthma or other air sensitive issues are not allowed to play outside if AQI is over 100. If AQI reaches 200, outside play is cancelled for all students and play times are inside. When we build a new campus, we will plan more space for inside play, as air pollution problems are not going away anytime soon. Indeed, if we do nothing to stop burning coal, further 'development' in Bishkek will make it worse every year.

Other cities have moved away from burning coal, to improve air quality. For example, Salt Lake City, USA, changed the central power station from coal to gas and they ban all coal and wood burning in houses during temperature inversions. Going east, Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, banned raw coal burning from 2019, which reduced air pollution by over 40% compared to the previous five years. We all need to work hard to bring these changes to Bishkek, or we will soon be unable to go outside in winter. Even now, for your children's health, minimize their time outside when the air is bad and get HEPA air filters for all rooms at home to at least keep inside air clean.



David Grant, Head of School



FUTURE OLYMPIC SPORT ON THE RISE AT BIS!

Floorball continues to rise in popularity at BIS. We are currently running a little over capacity this term with over 20 players on our BIS Grade 3-5 Floorball Team.

Floorball is a fun, safe and fast-paced form of floor hockey that is played indoors on a gym floor with specialized lightweight sticks and a ball.

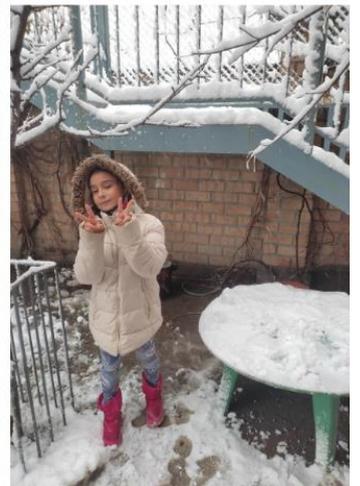
The game is played professionally in Northern Europe, Switzerland and the Czech Republic. It is also gaining in popularity in North America and Asia. In 2008, Floorball received recognition from the International Olympic Committee.

All this to say - it's so cool to see how the students are taking agency and embracing a new sport in Kyrgyzstan!

Mr. Faez, BIS Floorball 21/22



BIS Snapshot: Snow Fun



TRIVIA NIGHT AT BIS!

2ND DECEMBER
17.00-20.00

GET YOUR TICKETS IN THE CAFETERIA

250 SOM/PERSON

3-5 PEOPLE PER TEAM

GET:

HOUSE POINTS

SMALL PRIZES

(MYP 1 - IBDP 2)

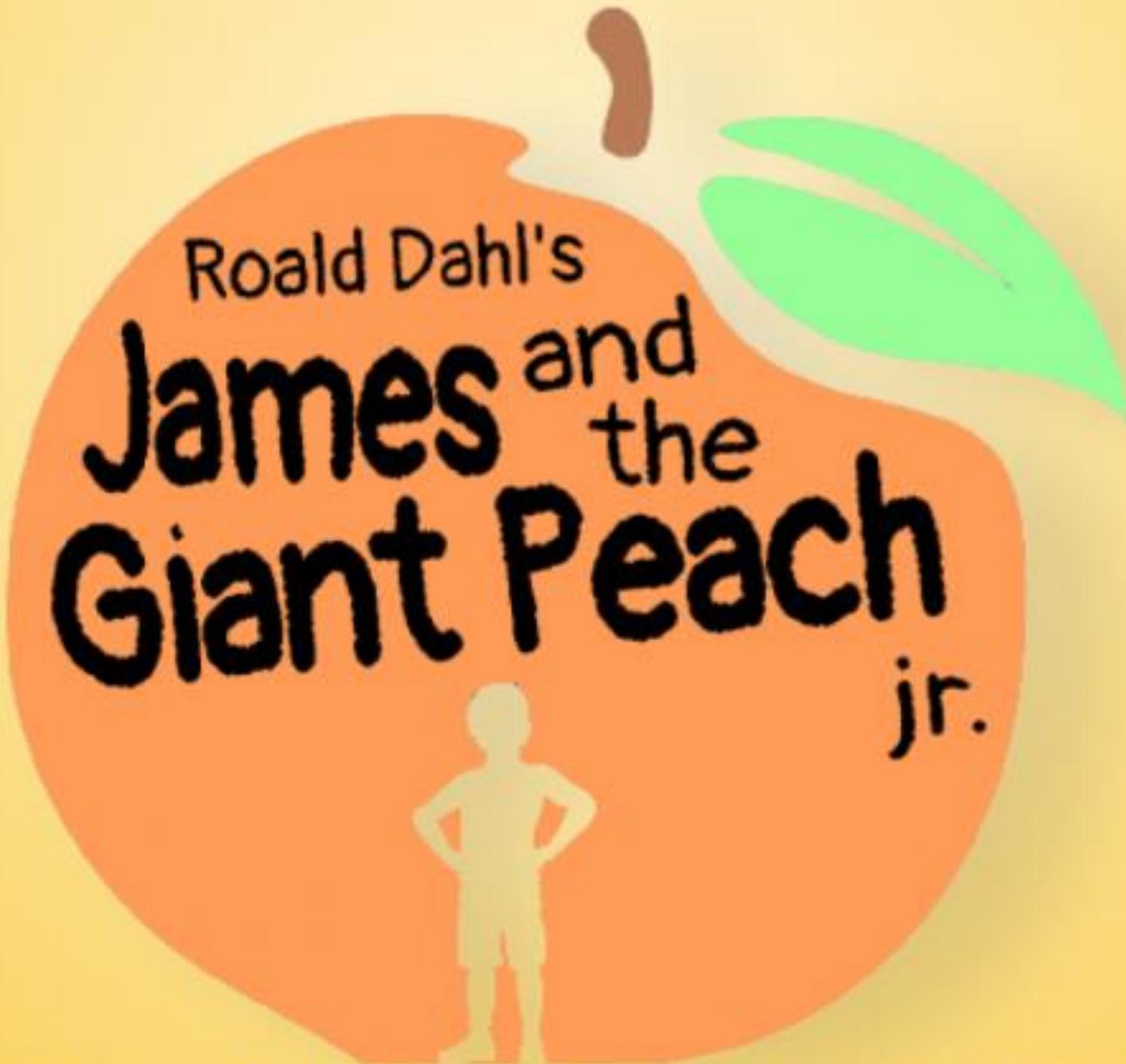


**Bishkek
International
School**

Saturday, December 11th 2021

From 16:00-18:00

Kyrgyz National Philharmonic Hall



Roald Dahl's
**James and the
Giant Peach**
jr.

Performed by students of Bishkek International School

2500
SOM



15
JANUARY



FOOD
MUSIC

HYATT
REGENCY

SECRET
GUEST

TICKETS ARE AVAILABLE FOR PURCHASE IN THE CAFETERIA
DURING LUNCHTIME

HELP NEEDED FOR OUR KITCHEN STAFF MEMBER AIDA KALIEVA'S DAUGHTER

One of our colleagues, who works in the school kitchen preparing food for us every day, Aida Kalieva, is going through a very difficult time as her 24-year-old daughter, Japara Talatbekova, has sclerosis of the right hippocampus, which results in her suddenly being unable to move for 2 or 3 minutes at a time.

Japara was first diagnosed when she was 2 years old but improved as she got older and had no incidents in recent years until she gave birth in 2019. Since 2019 she has been taking medicines to control the episodes, but doctors recommend an operation at the Neurosurgery clinic in Novosibirsk, which costs \$18000. The family has already collected \$9000 and need to raise another \$9,000 for the operation.



We are asking the BIS Community to help with collecting money to help this young lady stay healthy and be with her family. BIS is collecting donations for Aida's daughter until **31st December**.

If you would like to make a donation, please give it to our cashier, Meerim, in the outside Reception.

If sending money is easier, you can do it via [ELSOM](#) or [bank transfer](#).

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 27th November, Saturday: BIS Annual Debate Tournament
- 11 December: BIS 11th Anniversary Show – Official School Day
- 17th December, Saturday: Last Day of First Semester / Ded Moroz
- 20th December - 7th January – Winter break

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for November 29th – December 3rd is **Menu B**.

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, Preschool 1 students learned about feelings and emotions. Within a short time we sang different songs about emotions, feelings and our children showed their feelings. We read a lot of books together "Once I was very scared", "My feelings", "How dinosaurs say I am mad". We asked our children how they would feel if someone hurt them. We played a cookie show. In the first show, we pretended that someone was serving us a cookie and we ate those cookies and we were happy. In the second show, one of our friends took our cookie and ate it, so we felt sad and angry. In math, we learned the shape of a triangle. Our children were able to find a triangle shape in the form of a piece of cheese, pizza and a piece of cake. For art activities, we painted emotions, made a face with emotions using playdough, a triangular tree. This week was fun, wonderful and educational, all the children were happy to discover new knowledge.

Ms. Tina, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week, Preschool students have been continuing their inquiry into foods. Together, we explored and discussed about foods that come from the farm. Though our research, we found out that many animals live on the farm and they can help people. For example, chicken gives us an egg and the cow provides people with milk from which we can also produce cheese, yogurt and butter after several processes. To see, how farmers get the milk from the cow; we created a cardboard cow with udder from plastic gloves. Each friends in our class pretended to be a farmer and had a chance to milk the cow. We also tried some yogurt and cheese in our class and baked a banana bread next day to see the importance of products that comes from the farm.

Our friends in Preschool 2 helped to put all ingredients (butter, sugar, egg, banana, flour) into a bowl and each had a turn to mix it. Later, we enjoyed eating the yummy bread!

Next week, our friends will continue to talk about products that we get from the farm.

Ms. Begimai, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week our preschool 3 friends had a great week filled with many fun activities.

We learned the letter that the letter "h" is for hamburger, hair, hotdog, hippopotamus, and happy.

We also made a beautiful letter "h" house and practiced our handwriting skills by writing many "h" letters.

Next week we will be learning about letter the letter "r". We will also continue to learn about pattern recognition, number recognition and practice for the anniversary show. We will also be looking at alternative houses all over the world.

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

