



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 10 / 2022-23

28th October 2022

UN DAY 2022

On Friday, 14th October, BIS hosted an event dedicated to the UN Day, when students from High School and invited guests led activities for Primary and Middle School students to introduce them to the work of the UN, the Sustainable Development Goals and this year's UN Day theme of "Building Back Together for Peace and Prosperity".

UN Day is celebrated every year to mark the anniversary of the creation of the United Nations and every year it's an exciting day full of fun activities, celebrating diversity and culture, and learning about the different United Nations countries. One of the many highlights of this celebration included a parade of nations where students had a chance to demonstrate their different national costumes from around the world.

UN Day is not only about celebrating diversity and culture, but it is also a reminder of the value of peace and the cooperative spirit among nations.



CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our award winners:

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):

Neslihan (Grade 5B)

Asek, Roman, Zhandos (Grade 10)

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

Eldar (Grade 2B)

Ailina (Grade 3B)

Samir, Artur (Grade 11)

KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinker, Inquirer):

Ajibek (Grade 1Y)

Ayana (Grade 2B)

Laura, Eva Aijan (Grade 10)



Grade 1 students drawing the posters for the UN Day celebration.



BIS Snapshot: UN Day 2022



NEW FACES AT BIS: MS HELENE

You might suppose that having both parents as mathematics teachers, my charted course in life was pre-destined. But, my early childhood of being raised on a farm in rural northern South Africa, the “bushveld” of which Sir Percy Fitzpatrick wrote in his book ‘Jock of the Bushveld’, gave me a great love of animals, so that I might have pursued a career in keeping with that.

A natural ability to understand and share mathematics, though, meant that, by the time I was in senior secondary school, I had decided to pursue a career in education. Not just as a teacher, but, as my father is a respected school principal, to continue beyond teaching and progress on into the field of Education Management.

Initially, though, while working to gain my degree, I started out as a pre-primary and primary school teacher. On receiving my qualification, I applied for and achieved a posting as a mathematics teacher at a secondary school in Musina, the northernmost town in South Africa, not far from the Limpopo River, of which Rudyard Kipling wrote.



Beyond the academic side of teaching, and having personally excelled in various sports, I thoroughly enjoy coaching and encouraging young people in participating in sports. Having gained something of a reputation as a “pocket rocket”, alluding to my stature, energy and enthusiasm for sport, I guided the Eric Louw High School 1st boys hockey team to winning their provincial league, an achievement of which I am most proud.

In wanting to gain global experience, my intention has



always been to travel and teach in countries other than South Africa. I learned of teaching posts being available in Kyrgyzstan and although being bilingual in English and Afrikaans, without a shred of Russian, the required medium of education was in English, so I applied for a position at the Oxford International School in Bishkek, at which facility I spent my first year in Kyrgyzstan, as the Primary School Principal and teaching pre-primary learners.

I subsequently learned of a vacancy for a mathematics teacher at BIS and submitted my application and curriculum vitae and was thrilled to have been selected for the post at this excellent school. I am absolutely blessed to be part of the BIS community and my greatest wish is to continue to grow into the best educator and individual I can be.

Kyrgyzstan’s geographical location has meant that I have been able to pursue my love for travel, within this country, and to Siberia and Georgia so far. In addition, the Kyrgyz’ traditional love for horses and riding has meant that I have found in reasonable proximity to Bishkek, horse-riding opportunities, my first choice of extramural pursuits.

I have thoroughly enjoyed my stay in this beautiful country so far, despite it being so vastly different, culturally and climatically from my warm, sunshiny homeland.

Two quick fun facts: my Chihuahua’s name is Shifu which means “master” in Chinese and my name Helené is of French and Greek origin. Coming from the Greek name Helen which translates to “shining light”.

Ms. Helene, Math Teacher

FLYING KITE DESIGN IN MYP

Grade 7 students have designed and built their own kites for MYP Design course. In the meanwhile, the students have discovered the relationship between cultures, geographical locations and approaches in designing and building objects. Students came up with impressive solutions to make their kites fly higher.



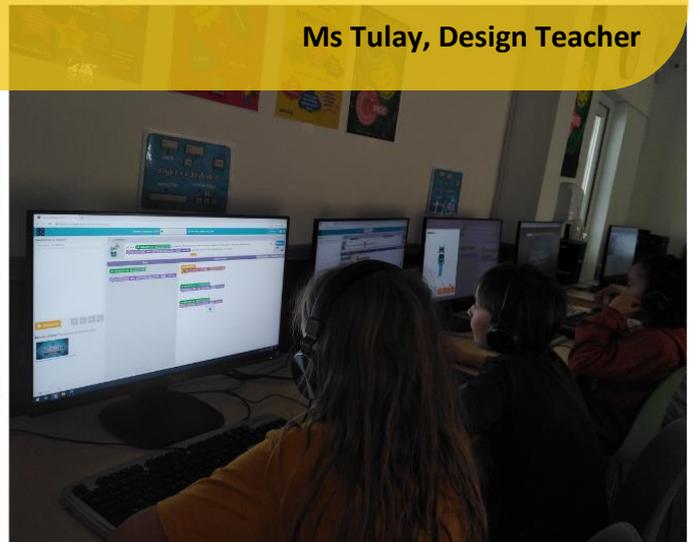
EU CODE WEEK WITH GRADE 4&5



Learning to code helps us make sense of the rapidly changing world around us. Join millions of fellow organisers and participants to inspire the development of coding and computational thinking skills in order to explore new ideas and innovate for the future.

This year BIS has also participated in EU Code Week activity. Grade 4 and Grade 5 students have celebrated the code week by creating their own dance party projects.

Ms Tulay, Design Teacher



FUN MONEY ACTIVITIES IN GRADE 2

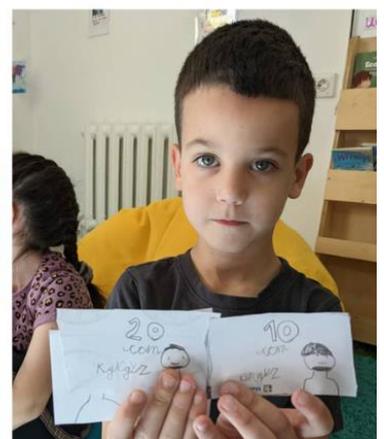
Grade 2 started the unit "How we organize ourselves" which is related to the concept of money. First, we decided to start with a game to let students understand how the money system works. They played the "City" game, a place with lots of the shops and services. We split into two groups - buyers and sellers. The buyer's group worked on inventing apps to create money bills to be able to buy goods in the shops, and the seller's group started to set up their small shops. Thus, we had a bookstore, grocery, clothes shop, toy and stationary shops.



It was interesting to observe how students decided on the prices because a single tomato cost 200 som and an adult jacket cost 10 som. Some of the shops in our classroom city even offered sales!



At the end of the game, sellers were busy with counting earnings and buyers were busy thinking about how to use their purchases.



FALL FESTIVAL CELEBRATION

All students at BIS celebrated Fall Festival this Friday. The Fall Festival is a great way to celebrate the season with lots of favorite traditions and ideas to get everyone involved. The children came dressed as various characters such as ghosts, witches, skeletons, etc. A special 'spooky corner' was decorated for the children too! All students had a range of fun activities throughout the day. Great job everyone who took participation in this fun event! More photos will be published in Voices next week.



BIS CHESS TOURNAMENT AMONG PARENTS

On October 7, BIS hosted the first Chess Tournament among parents, the goals of the tournament were:

- strengthening of friendship ties;
- popularization of chess in BIS;
- active development of chess in BIS.



The tournament winners are:

1st Place

Gunther Kotz, father of students Samuel, Elija and Amalia Fuhr.

2nd Place

Salahov Ejder, father of students Salahova Aida, Salahov Malik.

3rd Place

Omurbek Busurmankulov, grandfather of Bermet Dzhunusova.

Congratulations to Snow leopards and Phoenix houses who receive points due to chess winners for 1 place 100 points, 2 place 75 points and 3 place 50 points. For participation 10 points will be counted.

Dear parents, thank you for your precious time, we appreciate your supporting the idea to develop chess in BIS! You are good examples for the growing generation!

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 7th - 8th November, Monday-Tuesday: Days of History & Memory of Ancestors BUT **ONLY Monday 7th is a holiday from school!** We already used the other day for a long weekend in February.
- 19th November, Saturday: BIS Annual Debate Tournament
- 25th November, Friday: Friendsgiving Dinner – Parents Association
- 10th December, Saturday: BIS Anniversary Show – Official School Day
- 16th December, Friday: Last Day of First Semester / Ded Moroz
- 19th December - 6th January – Winter break

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for October 31st – November 4th is **Menu C**.

You can view both [Preschool Menu](#) and [Primary & Secondary school menu](#) on our school website. 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, our Preschool 1 group was talking about the five senses. We discussed that the five senses — seeing, hearing, smelling, tasting, and touching — help us to understand what is happening around us. Every day we did different activities for each of these senses. One of the interesting activities was about the sense of taste. Our friends tried lemon, and we looked at each other's reactions to its taste. During the circle time, we sang the song about the five senses and read

a book about "A Very Hungry Caterpillar," where the main hero caterpillar tastes different foods and still stays hungry. In math, we learned the number 5, and we had different activities with counting.

At the end of the week, there was the most amazing fall festival. Preschool, together with everyone, played different games, painted pumpkins, and decorated cookies. Our children had a lot of fun and interest.

Ms. Tina, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

Our Preschool 2 friends were happy to be back to school, seems they missed each other and really enjoyed playing together. This week we revised letters we learned before, also we keep singing our phonics songs and are trying to learn letter sounds. In Math we learn numbers and counting up to 10, some students are still struggling with identifying numbers so we do

a lot of tracing and coloring numbers. With our students we are also getting to our topic of our chores and morning routines, kids are learning to share little information about themselves. This week is a lot of fun as today we are celebrating fall festival and kids are very happy to celebrate it.

Ms. Dinara, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week, our preschool 3 friends were so excited to come back to school after the first term's break. They were so excited as they were eager for Halloween and made lots of preparations for it.

In art, they made funny paper plate ghosts and creepy spiders which they used to decorate the classroom with. In English, our friends reviewed the six phonic sounds they had learnt last term and were able to blend them to make nonsensical words. They also

wrote the letter Aa in their books. This week, our preschool 3 friends started practicing writing their names using name cards.

In Math, our friends practiced writing the number 3 on slates and in their books and also played number games.

Next week, we will look at writing the number 4, sounding out phonic sounds p and n, and also do oral blending.

Ms. Kathy, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher

