



Bishkek International School

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 22 / 2022-23

3rd February 2023

WINTER SPORTS DAY

On Friday last week, BIS celebrated our annual Winter Sports Day and it was a great day full of emotions and fun!

All students from Grade 2 to Grade 12 spent the whole day at the mountains skiing, snowboarding, sledding and picnicking. It was a great chance to spend time outside the classroom with friends, improve their athletic skills and get a lot of good memories.

A big thank you to all who made this day so successful, and to the preschool and lower school team for their work in organising events for our younger students.



CPR, BROc AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our award winners:

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):

Soren (Grade 3B)

KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinker, Inquirer):

Aisha (Grade 11)

Daria (Grade 9)

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

Aaron (Grade 3Y)

SOCIAL SERVICE AS ACTION



Bilim, Lucia and Erica from Grade 6 have been very helpful in the Grade Zero class. Girls assist younger students in practicing their self-support skills like dressing up, zipping, buckling, and tying shoelaces. They have been especially supportive and active during indoor recess time due to Air Quality. It is not easy to organize kindergarteners during recess, but the girls managed to do it in this short time, to build good relationships with children.

Ms. Altynai, Grade 0 Homeroom Teacher



PANGEA MATH OLYMPIAD 2023 (QUALIFYING ROUND)

BIS students recently took part in the Pangea Math Olympiad 2023 (Qualifying Round), which was held virtually on January 28, 2023. They competed against students from 78 countries, but our students were up to the challenge. We are still waiting for the results, but we are hoping for the best.

The students were well prepared and had weeks of training sessions, demonstrating their commitment and dedication. We are proud of the efforts of our students and grateful for the support of our school.

As the competition moves forward, we are hoping for



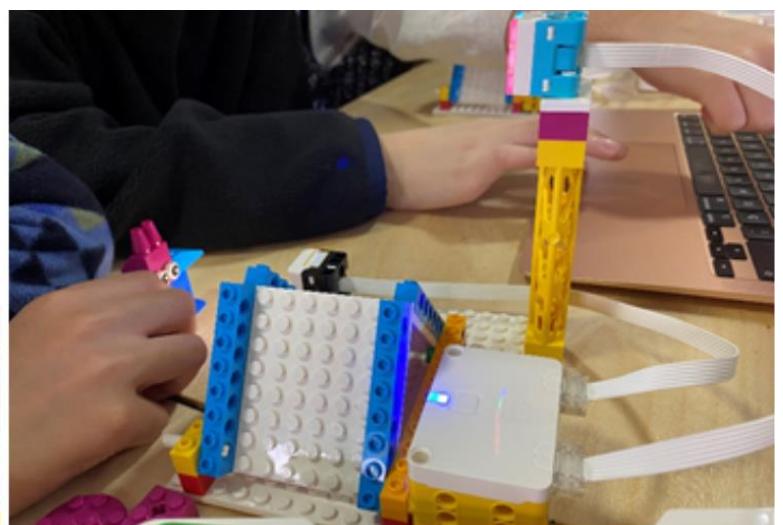
the whole school community's (parents, students, and staff) support in the upcoming fundraising activities set by our Math Olympians. These activities will allow them to take part in the face-to-face competition that will be held in Berlin, Germany.

This is our first time to participate in a Math Competition, and we hope that it will be the first of many such opportunities for our school. This will encourage students to continue to develop and showcase their mathematical skills, not only in Kyrgyzstan, but also around the world.

Ms. Danelle, Math Teacher / Math Olympiad Trainer

ROBOTICS ECA

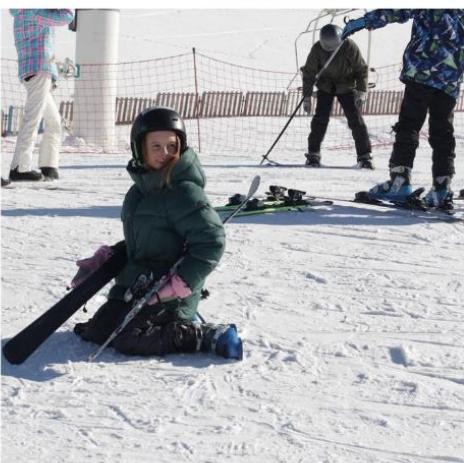
Grade 4 and 5 students constructed an animal alarm system using a Lego Spike Essential Set. They learned about how alarms work, the types of sensors they require, and the programming.



In the robotics projects, students discuss and share ideas they want to experiment with. Robotic and Lego education allow students to brainstorm problems in their daily lives in computational ways. At BIS we encourage our students to explore the world of robotics in order to keep up with technologically advanced world in a such early age.

Ms. Tulay, Design & Computer Science Teacher

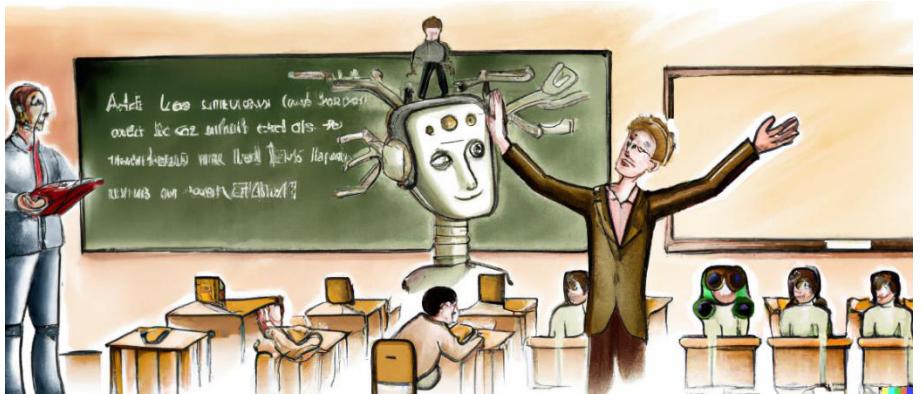
BIS Snapshot: Winter Sports Day



AI TAKES OVER BIS

BIS fully embraces the new tools available in 'Artificial Intelligence' (AI), including [ChatGPT](#), [Dall-E](#), and any future innovations. Our teachers will educate students how to use AI for targeted internet research, drafting, summarising, creating graphics and any other wonderful things the tools can do, while avoiding plagiarism. AI tools already eliminate the need for humans to write boring articles or basic software and graphic design, raising the bar for human performance. However, AI regurgitates concepts and errors drawn from the mass of information/misinformation on the www and is constrained by its owners' dogmas. AI has no original imagination or independent analysis, so the future is bright for those who have these skills; especially for those who can create or control AI tools. This means that student learning is more important than ever to hone original imagination and critical analysis skills, so that each student has their own 'voice'.

A Dall-E creation, with the prompt
"AI takes over a school and rules the world"



David Grant, Head of School

BENEFITS OF DANCE CLASS FOR CHILDREN



During dance lessons, students learn to express themselves, their thoughts, and their feelings through movements. Living and relieving stress and negative emotions through dance moves helps students to relax. In dance, students use all of their muscles, get rid of excess weight, and train coordination and balance, which will help in any life situations to react in time and prevent injury.



At the moment we are studying improvisation, various dance styles both solo and in groups. It helps students learn about different traditions and cultures through a variety of dance styles; and improvisation helps students develop their worldview and imagination. Life is born in movement.

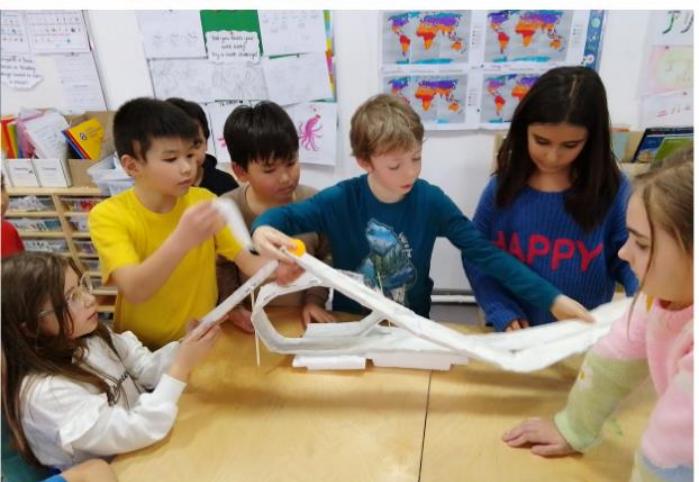
Mr. Sergei, Dance Teacher



DESIGN A ROLLER COASTER PROJECT BASED LEARNING IN SCIENCE



In Grade 3 students have been learning about simple and complex machines, as well as forces, motion and energy. Teams were tasked with designing their own roller coasters, which they built with reinforced paper sticks, foil, pipe cleaners, recycled cardboard and polystyrene, in addition to tape. While building their roller coasters, the teams had to collaborate and work creatively, applying problem solving skills where needed.



The students also had to consider the relationship between speed, force and gravity. They planned and carried out tests, involving ping pong or rubber balls to discover if their model worked properly. This hands-on activity allowed students to connect science topics to real-world applications, while having lots of fun in the process of designing their own model roller coasters.

Mr. Paul, Grade 3Y Homeroom Teacher



IS IT THE RESULTS OR THE PROCESS?

When the BIS U19 Boys Basketball Team comes back to school on Monday they won't be asked, "How have you grown and developed personally, socially and physically over the past six months of training for basketball?"

That would be a really weird question! They'll be asked, "Did you win?"

I'm so proud of this group of student athletes. They are an inclusive group who have welcomed and supported one another all year. We went from not having enough players to qualify for tournaments to now having a full squad. They've shown what it is to be a community by always welcoming any U15 athlete who wanted to join their U19 team practices.

They have faced adversity all season and have demonstrated the capacity to adapt to ever changing environments. They've shown up to school at 6:45am for practices and have stayed as late as 6:45pm, not just because they love it but because they have learned to be accountable to each other.

There have definitely been some key leaders who have helped to create, shape and cultivate this culture. Whether it be in sport, business or whatever their



future personal and career ambitions may be, they've demonstrated skills that will benefit those around them for years to come.

We play our first game of the Bishkek International Schools Association tournament today. We're going for it. Whatever the result, these young student athletes have demonstrated resilience and the tenacity to rise above. They represent everything BIS strives to be.

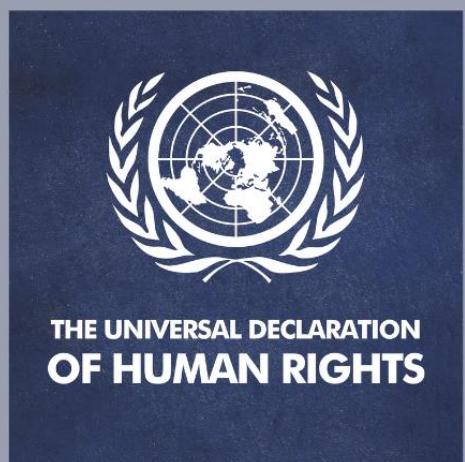
Enjoy the moment boys and have fun with it!

Mr. Faez, U19 Boys Basketball Coach

UNIVERSAL DECLARATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

Do you know about the Declaration of Human Rights? The Universal Declaration of Human Rights is a historic document which outlined the rights and freedoms everyone is entitled to. The declaration has rights which are fundamental rules of what is allowed for people. Countries or states can't grant them because we have them from birth. They range from the most basic - the right to life - to those that make life worth living, such as the rights to food, education, work, health, and liberty, and the right to not be subjected to torture or to cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. Some governments don't give people all the rights, but it is important to have rights.

Here is a [link](#) to the Universal declaration of human rights.



Nikita, Grace, Adelaide, Tigran, Grade 5Y Students

IGCSE MOCK EXAMS

This week in Grade 10, students have begun practising for their upcoming summer IGCSE examinations in a simulated environment. These assessments follow official exam procedures, with all the instructions, rules and proctors that come with them.

While some students may certainly find these examinations a difficult time for them, Mock exams serve a dual purpose - they allow teachers to assess students' overall ability and anticipate final outcomes,



while also providing students with a simulation of the actual testing experience. This includes factors such as test duration, fatigue, and nervousness. It's crucial for students to hone their exam-taking skills, such as managing time and maintaining focus, through consecutive mock exams, and we hope this better prepares them for those that begin in a couple of months.

The IGCSE teachers and I are extremely proud of how hardworking Grade 10 have been in this process, and we hope their momentum continues into next week.

Mr. Tom, IGCSE Coordinator

GOVERNING BOARD UPDATE

The [Governing Board \(GB\)](#) met on Thursday, January 26th, for the third meeting of this academic year.

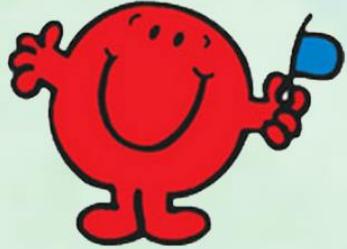
During this meeting, inter-alia, the GB:

- Confirmed the appointment of Nazgul Asangojoeva-Baekova as Deputy Chair of the Governing Board;
- Reviewed the Management Board Report for December 2022;
- Reviewed the current financial position and forecasts;
- Reviewed and agreed fee levels and early payment discounts for 2023/24, to be announced in February;
- Agreed spending from the School Development Fund to add two new classrooms to the current campus in summer 2023;
- Reviewed the status of new campus plans, with land transformation plans at Pistachio still going through a government process;
- Decided to proceed with conceptual plans for a training centre, as an initial development at the proposed new campus site;
- Reviewed other possible land options for a new campus;
- Requested the Management Board to develop a policy proposal for fee reduction for students with special inclusion needs, if parents are unable to pay the full fee;
- Approved BIS to fully embrace artificial intelligence (AI) tools in all teaching and learning.

Nuriza Begalieva, Governance Support Officer & Secretary to the Governing Board



BIS LIBRARY INVITES YOU TO
PARTICIPATE IN OUR ANNUAL



DRAWING COMPETITION

1. Choose your favourite book character/favourite scene from the book
2. Draw it on A4 paper sheet
3. Bring your drawing to the primary library no later than 5 p.m. 10th of February
4. Get house points!

Drawings should include:

Name of your book and author

Your name and grade

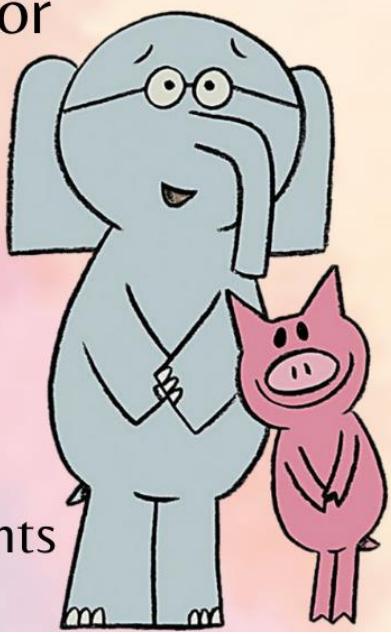
Prizes:

1st place - 100 house points

2nd place - 70 house points

3rd place - 50 house points

Each participant gets 10 house points



MYP STUDENT COUNCIL

Valentine's Party

for MYP



Price 350 soms
pizza, drinks, games, dances

17:00-19:00

Cafeteria



10th February



questions?
gakunova@bis.kg

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for February 6th – 10th is **Menu B**.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 3-4 February: BISA Basketball Tournament
- 13-20 February: CAFA Basketball Tournament in Tashkent
- 14th February, Tuesday: Valentine's Day organized by students
- 22nd February, Wednesday: Languages in Our Lives Day
- 23rd February, Thursday: Homeland Defender's Day. NO SCHOOL
- 24th February, Friday: (holiday moved from 8th November). No SCHOOL

BIS CONTACTS

Position	Name	Contact
BIS Reception	Albina / Adinai / Alina	info@bis.kg 0312 214 406, 0770 214 406
School Bus enquiries	Burmakan Birnazarova	bus@bis.kg
ECA (extra-curricular activities) enquiries	Bojana Askovic / Nazira Almasbekova	eca@bis.kg
ManageBac & SchoolsBuddy Admin	Esentur Dildebekov	edildebekov@bis.kg
Admissions Officers	Asel Orunbekova Begimai Urmanbetova	admissions@bis.kg 0706 200 200
Registrar	Nurbek Chagataev	nchagataev@bis.kg
Doctor	Asel Turusbaeva	doctor@bis.kg
Head of School	David Grant	dgrant@bis.kg
Head of Administration	Mirzat Osmonova	mosmonova@bis.kg
High School Principal	Jacques Prinsloo	jprinsloo@bis.kg
Middle School Principal	Laura Kircough	lkircough@bis.kg
Primary School Principal	Gillian McGuigan	gmcguigan@bis.kg
Diploma Programme Coordinator	Makiko Inaba	minaba@bis.kg
IGCSE Coordinator	Tom Clifton	tclifton@bis.kg
MYP Coordinator	Rabia Newton	rnewton@bis.kg
PYP Coordinator	Alicia Grinsteinner	agrinsteinner@bis.kg
National Curriculum Coordinator	Chynara Abdryaeva	cabdryaeva@bis.kg
Chair of the Governing Board (GB)	Fred Huston	gbchair@bis.kg
Governing Board Secretary	Nuriza Begalieva	gbsec@bis.kg
Parents Association President	Robert Hamling	papres@bis.kg
Parents Association Secretary	Secretary	pamc@bis.kg

Homeroom/Form Classes

Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher Preschool 1 Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Tinatin Oskombaeva Nurzat Osmonova	toskombaeva@bis.kg nosmonova@bis.kg laps1@bis.kg
Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher Preschool 2 Co-Teacher Preschool 2 Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Dinara Salieva Jarkyn Oskonbaeva Nargiza Zhusupova	dsalieva@bis.kg joskonbaeva@bis.kg nzhusupova@bis.kg Laps2@bis.kg
Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher Preschool 3 Co-Teacher Preschool 3 Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Kathy Chitumba Kulkayir Junusheva Kudrat Niiazov	kchitumba@bis.kg kjunusheva@esca.kg kniiazov@bis.kg Laps3@bis.kg
Grade 0 Homeroom Teacher Grade 0 Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Altynai Isabekova Aiperi Zhyrgalbekova	aisabekova@bis.kg azhyrgalbekova@bis.kg Lag0@bis.kg
Grade 1 Yellow Homeroom Teacher Grade 1 Yellow Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Maria Corbett Diana Kurbanova	mcorbett@bis.kg dkurbanova@bis.kg Lag1y@bis.kg
Grade 1 Blue Homeroom Teacher Grade 1 Blue Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Begimai Keneshbekova Guldana Muratalieva	bkeneshbekova@bis.kg gmuratlieva@bis.kg Lag1b@bis.kg
Grade 2 Yellow Homeroom Teacher Grade 2 Yellow Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Oksana Chichilova Aike Uralieva	ochichilova@bis.kg auralieva@bis.kg lag2y@bis.kg
Grade 2 Blue Homeroom Teacher Grade 2 Blue Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Morgan Chadderton Kanykei Tursunalieva	mchadderton@bis.kg ktursunalieva@bis.kg lag2b@bis.kg
Grade 3 Yellow Homeroom Teacher Grade 3 Yellow Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Paul Fahidi Eva David	pfahidi@bis.kg edavid@bis.kg lag3y@bis.kg
Grade 3 Blue Homeroom Teacher Grade 3 Blue Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Michaela Kilbride Erkinai Abdiakhhat kyzzy	mkilbride@bis.kg eabdiakhatkazy@bis.kg lag3b@bis.kg
Grade 4 Yellow Homeroom Teacher Grade 4 Yellow Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Shelley King Meerim Tashtanova	sking@bis.kg mtashtanova@bis.kg lag4y@bis.kg
Grade 4 Blue Homeroom Teacher Grade 4 Blue Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Ana Alcala Aisedep Syrgakova	aalcala@bis.kg asyrgakova@bis.kg lag4b@bis.kg
Grade 5 Yellow Homeroom Teacher Grade 5 Yellow Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Rebecca Peters Elina Ignatova	rpeters@bis.kg eignatova@bis.kg lag5y@bis.kg
Grade 5 Blue Homeroom Teacher Grade 5 Blue Co-Teacher Lateness or absence	Rona Butler Nuraida Asanbaeva	rbutler@bis.kg nasanbaeva@bis.kg lag5b@bis.kg
Grade 6 Form Teachers Lateness or absence	Marc Garreta Asel Orunbekova	mgarreta@bis.kg aorunbekova@bis.kg lag6@bis.kg
Grade 7 Form Teachers Lateness or absence	Dannelle Dela Cruz Esentur Dildebekov	dcruz@bis.kg edildebekov@bis.kg lag7@bis.kg
Grade 8 Form Teachers Lateness or absence	David Lien Gulbara Akunova	dlien@bis.kg gakunova@bis.kg lag8@bis.kg

Grade 9 Form Teachers	Helene Fick Tulay Yavuz	hfick@bis.kg tyavuz@bis.kg lag9@bis.kg
Lateness or absence		
Grade 10 Form Teachers	Ray Evans Nadia El Aoud	revans@bis.kg nelaoud@bis.kg lag10@bis.kg
Lateness or absence		
Grade 11 Form Teachers	Artika Singh Jan Scott	asingh@bis.kg jscott@bis.kg lag11@bis.kg
Lateness or absence		
Grade 12 Form Teachers	Andrew Wheeler Valeria Totolina	awheel@bis.kg vtotolina@bis.kg lag12@bis.kg
Lateness or absence		

WHATSAPP & TELEGRAM

Most school communication is sent by email or in Voices. We also have Telegram and WhatsApp broadcast channels to repeat general email messages. The same info is on WhatsApp and Telegram, and on both English and Russian channels. If you do not check emails, join the channel that is easiest for you to follow.



[BIS news \(Eng\)](#) OR [BIS новости \(Рус\)](#)



[BIS news \(Eng\)](#) OR [BIS новости \(Рус\)](#)

FIND US ON THE WEB



BIS website - www.bis.kg



BIS Instagram - @bis.kg



BIS Facebook - facebook.com/biskgz



Parents Association - facebook.com/bis.parents.127



PRESCHOOL 1

This week, Preschool 1 friends started to learn about how people express their feelings and emotions through music. We discussed that some people can use musical instruments to express their soul state. We looked at musical instruments and tried to make different sounds. We were also making a feeling chart, and our friends shared their feelings every morning. On Thursday, we used our musical instruments to create various pieces of music to express our emotions. Some friends in our class were making a joyful tune to show that they feel happy, some were making a slow, soft sound to demonstrate that they feel a little sad or tired, and some were making loud, sharp music to show that they feel angry. We attempted to comprehend and discuss what causes us to experience these various emotions.

In an art lesson, Preschool 1 students were busy making beautiful winter trees with Ms. Anna. Next week, we will continue to talk about our feelings and emotions that we can express through music.

Ms. Tina, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher

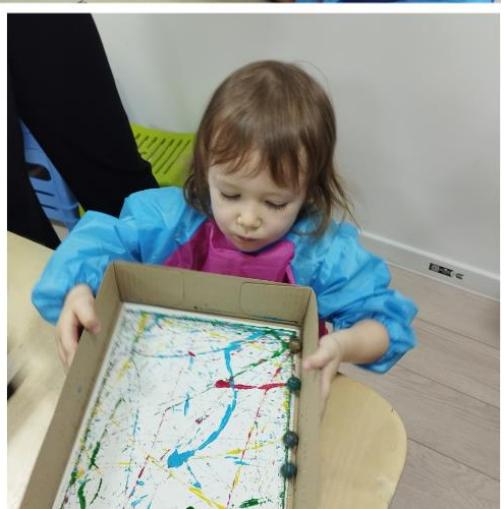


PRESCHOOL 2

Our Preschool 2 friends have been improving motor and listening skills. We practice a lot of cutting, sticking, tracing lines and listen to different sounds. Our friends now enjoy rhyming songs and are learning phonics as well, they love the alphabet songs. This all help our friends to better listen to the information during classes. These also helped them to better

understand when they listen to each other while playing and talking and it improves and makes more effective their communication skills among each other which is really great. We learned letter U for this week and letter U words. We are trying to learn to count backwards from 10 to 1 and doing. Also we play a lot and try to express our feelings and emotions.

Ms. Dinara, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

Our friends had a fantastic week of learning that kept them engaged. This week, we learnt about the phonic sound 'o'. We discovered a lot of objects that began with the letter sound 'o' and we made an octopus.

In our UOI lesson, we read a story about the three little pigs, and we discussed the setting and the characters in the story. We also made pig masks in readiness for

our role-play which we will perform for preschool 1 and 2 next week.

In Math, our friends looked at the 14, and wrote it in their workbooks. We counted 14 objects, and also counted 14 friends who were present in class.

Next week, we will look at the letter sound 'ee' and the number 15.

Ms. Kathy, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher



