



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 3 / 2023-24

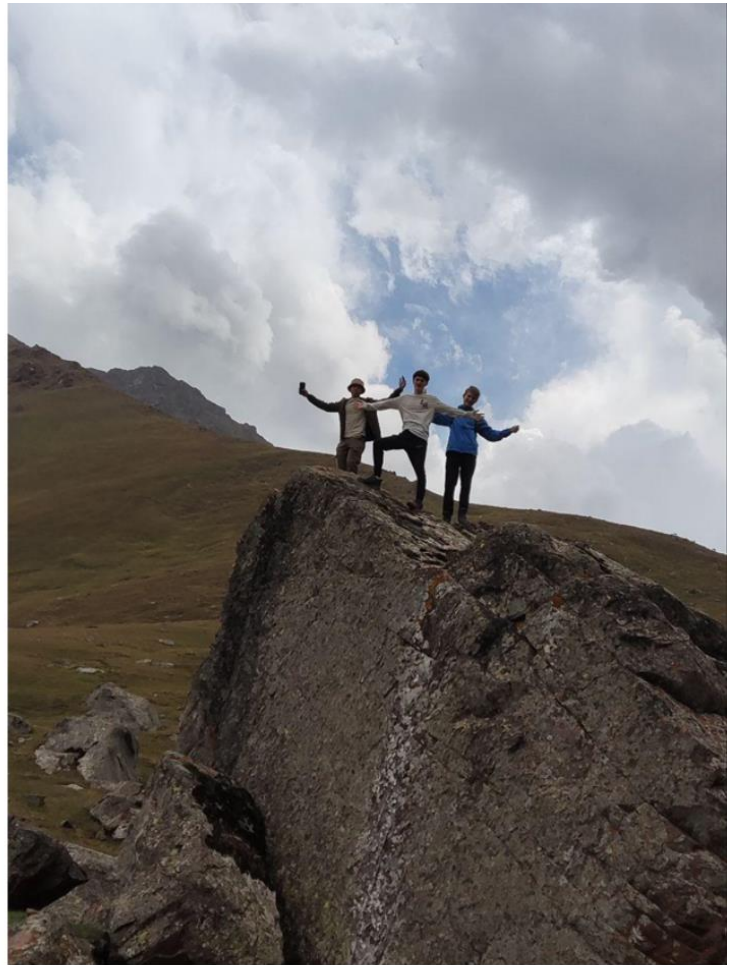
1st September 2023

UNFORGETTABLE EXPERIENCES FROM THE GRADE 10 TRIP TO KOL TOR

Last weekend, a group of IGCSE2 Geography students exploring fluvial dynamics trekked up the picturesque Kol Tor river valley.

It is always a pleasure to explore the great outdoors with enthusiastic students! This year we practiced quantitative methods, but focused on qualitative data gathering throughout the hike, which led to an almost meditative experience as we made field sketches and intentionally observed our surroundings to write what we saw. ~ **Mr Andrew**

What a great experience this trip was! G10 amazed me; they were great hikers and curious students who created a tight little team. ~ **Ms Lailo**



"The hike up to the lake was grueling but the scenery was beautiful. Lots of lovely natural structures and wildlife made the trek more bearable [...] the lake was absolutely beautiful and worth every step." ~ **Asek**

"It was [a] great trip, great, great, great. The hike [was] beautiful as well as informative, Mr Andrew kept giving tidbits of geo wisdom and more. THERE WAS A DACHSHUND, best trip." **Miko**



"Energy dwindling throughout the whole way, I rejoiced seeing the lake after the excruciating hike. We learnt a lot about fieldwork and got me to connect with new/familiar faces. (DON'T SWIM IN IT, unless you're Alaskan)." ~ **Zacky**

"The trip felt more like a [P.E.] Class but it was still fun. We saw a sausage dog swim in the lake." ~ **Lana**

"The lake was super beautiful and was definitely worth the struggle of hiking up the [...] mountain." ~ **Aydana**

"The trip was definitely exhausting, but rewarding nevertheless. It was a great way to understand how to do fieldwork while also spending an entire day outside. I really enjoyed exploring the area and learning about the processes that made it change overtime." ~ **Ailin**

"...I enjoyed the beautiful views of the mountains. I really liked how we measured the river with different instruments, new to me, which I had never seen, it was an unusual experience for me." ~ **Daira**



CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our award winners:

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):

Leo (Preschool 3Y), **James** (Grade 3B), **Misir** (Grade 5B), **Alikhan** (Grade 7B)

KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinker, Inquirer):

Sejin (Grade 2B), **Maiko** (Grade 6B)

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

Adam (Preschool 2), **Alsou** (Grade 5B)

NEW FACES AT BIS: MS SARAH

My name is Sarah Hill and I am excited to be joining BIS as Head of Performing Arts. I am from the UK and have over twenty years of teaching experience across a range of different schools, teaching Music and Drama from Grade 0 right through to Grade 12. My interest in working internationally began with my gap year, where I supported a hearing-impaired girl in her school in both Kenya and Kathmandu, Nepal. I knew after this that I wanted to become a teacher and that I wanted to work overseas. Following a degree in Music with Education from Cambridge University, I began my career as the Music Coordinator at a Primary school in Hertfordshire and loved it! After several years teaching in the UK in different schools, I had the opportunity to move to Tamil Nadu, India. Since then, my teaching career has taken me back to Kathmandu, then onto Seoul, South Korea and more recently to Malaysia where I led the Expressive Arts Team at an International School in Sarawak. I have enjoyed sharing my passion for the Performing Arts in an international context, and loved experiencing so many different cultures, food, customs, and musical traditions.



I am looking forward to exploring the cultural and musical scene here in Bishkek. I am keen to learn some traditional instruments, to learn to cook some Kyrgyz dishes, as well as spending time in the mountains, walking, cycling, and enjoying this beautiful country.

As I look back on my career, it has been the experiences that I had as a student which shaped the teacher I am today. I grew up in a musical family and have wonderful memories of performing in concerts and productions in all sorts of venues, including the Royal Albert Hall. As a teacher, I want to provide all students of all ages and abilities with exciting and memorable opportunities, from concerts and productions, to band gigs, choirs, music festivals, and international trips. I believe the Performing Arts is a wonderful way to develop confidence and creativity and I am looking forward to working with your children here at BIS!

Ms. Sarah, Head of Performing Arts

BASELINE ENGLISH LANGUAGE TESTS IN PRIMARY SCHOOL

The Primary school will have baseline English Language tests in the third week of the school year. Grade 2&4 on September 4th, Grade 1&3 on September 5th, and Grade 5 on September 6th. We will do catch up tests on September 7th and 8th for those students who missed on earlier. Students do not need specific preparation for these baseline tests which are designed to help teachers understand their students' abilities. Our focus is Reading Comprehension from Grades 2-4. Grade 5 will also have a Grammar assessment. First graders will be assessed based on Phonics.



English baseline tests will happen three times during the school year: in September, January, and April. The results will be used throughout the year to see how well students are doing and to adjust teaching strategies as needed. The baseline test results and the progress made by the child will be reflected in their reports as a way to understand and celebrate student's progress. Teachers will share learning strategies with families to target learning goals. We appreciate the learning community support and efforts to develop speaking, reading and writing skills in our students as a key to lifelong learning goals and personal success. If you have any questions about English baseline testing in Primary, please email our Primary School English Leader, Stephen Labanowich slabanowich@bis.kg.

Elina Ignatova, Primary School Assistant Principal

Grade 6 Yellow students had a blast experimenting with Oobleck, exploring its fascinating properties in a hands-on science activity.



Students in Grades 6-8 enjoying the ECA time playing Soccer.



THE HOUSE SYSTEM

The House System exists to promote healthy competition based on inclusion and teamwork. BIS has three Houses for all students from Preschool to High school: 'Phoenix', 'Piranhas', and 'Snow Leopards'. Various events, challenges and competitions contribute to house points which are accumulated throughout the year to produce an overall winning House.

All students are assigned to one of the Houses to ensure that all year groups have a good balance of students in each House and an overall student and staff balance between Houses.

If you want to find out in which House you are in go to this [link](#).

This year our House Leaders are:



Drawing A Spring Tree



Enjoy the art work of our students from Grade 2-Grade 5:
Jenny, Saina, Calvin, Ayla, Ramil, Alan, Mark, Suleiman and Estel.



ASIA DAY FESTIVAL SATURDAY 16 SEPTEMBER 2023 AT BIS

The BIS Asia Day Festival is on Saturday 16th September, 10:00 am to 13:00, as a celebration event for the wider community. If you are interested in creating a display table or activities to celebrate the special features of any Asian country or culture, please let me know as soon as possible via mosmonova@bis.kg, so that we can add your country or culture to the postcards for stamp collections as children move around the event. **If you are interested in representing any Asian country or culture at the event, please email me via mosmonova@bis.kg and we can arrange something together!**

Mirzat Osmonova, Head of Administration, Deputy Head of School



You are invited!

Asia Day Festival



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

SATURDAY, 16TH OF SEPTEMBER, 2023

10.00 AM TO 13.00 PM

BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

67A BRONIROVANNAYA ST.

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for September 4th – 8th is **Menu C**.

You can view the [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 – 2023/24 Calendar is [here](#)

- Friday, 8th September: All Parents Meeting – Parents Association
- Saturday, 16th September: Asia Day Festival
- Tuesday, 26th September: Sports Day in Spartak Stadium: Grade 4 to 12 (new date)
- Friday, 6th October – Saturday, 7th October: CAFA Cross Country (Bishkek, Karagach Park)
- Wednesday, 11th October: Individual Parents-Teacher Meetings
- 16-20 October: Autumn/Fall Break
- Tuesday, 24th October: UN Day at BIS
- Tuesday, 31st October: Fall Festival/Halloween

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 Assistant	Elina Ignatova	eignatova@bis.kg
Diploma Programme Coordinator	Makiko Inaba	minaba@bis.kg
IGCSE Coordinator	Tom Clifton	tclifton@bis.kg
MYP Coordinator	Nadine Lemoine	nlemoine@bis.kg
PYP Coordinator	Maria Corbett	mcorbett@bis.kg
National Curriculum Coordinator	Chynara Abdyaeva	cabdyaeva@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	Guldana Muratalieva	gmuratalieva@bis.kg
Preschool 1 Co-Teacher	Laura Meloliu	lmeloliu@bis.kg
Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher	Nuraida Asanbaeva	nasanbaeva@bis.kg
Preschool 2 Co-Teacher	Zharkyn Oskonbaeva	joskonbaeva@bis.kg
Preschool 3 Blue Homeroom Teacher	Bivo Chongo	bchongo@bis.kg
Preschool 3 Co-Teacher	Kudrat Niyazov	kniiazov@bis.kg
Preschool 3 Co-Teacher	Nurzat Osmonova	nosmonova@bis.kg
Preschool 3 Yellow Homeroom Teacher, Head of Preschool	Carmen Prinsloo	cprinsloo@bis.kg
Preschool 3 Co-Teacher	Gulya Junusheva	kjunusheva@bis.kg
Preschool 3 Co-Teacher	Nurzat Osmonova	nosmonova@bis.kg
Grade 0 Blue Homeroom Teacher	Paul Fahidi	pfahidi@bis.kg
Grade 0 Blue Co-Teacher	Nargiza Zhusupova	nzhusupova@bis.kg
Grade 0 Yellow Homeroom Teacher	Altynai Isabekova	aisabekova@bis.kg
Grade 0 Yellow Co-Teacher	Gulsara Sheraly kyzy	gsheralykyzy@bis.kg
Grade 1 Blue Homeroom Teacher	Nelia Mwanza	nmwanza@bis.kg
Grade 1 Blue Co-Teacher	Zhyldyz Zhikanova	zhzhikanova@bis.kg
Grade 1 Yellow Homeroom Teacher	Begimai Keneshbekova	bkeneshbekova@bis.kg
Grade 1 Yellow Co-Teacher	Rabiia Erkulova	rerkulova@bis.kg
Grade 2 Blue Homeroom Teacher	Morgan Chadderton	mchadderton@bis.kg
Grade 2 Blue Co-Teacher	Kanykei Tursunalieva	ktursunalieva@bis.kg
Grade 2 Yellow Homeroom Teacher	Oksana Chichilova	ochichilova@bis.kg
Grade 2 Yellow Co-Teacher	Aike Uralieva	auralieva@bis.kg
Grade 3 Blue Homeroom Teacher	Brenda Wamboi	bwamboi@bis.kg
Grade 3 Blue Co-Teacher	Deniz Karybaeva	dkarybaeva@bis.kg
Grade 3 Yellow Homeroom Teacher	Genevieve Maser	gmaser@bis.kg
Grade 3 Yellow Co-Teacher	Meikinai Kuldanbaeva	mkuldanbaeva@bis.kg
Grade 4 Blue Homeroom Teacher	Shelly King	sking@bis.kg
Grade 4 Blue Co-Teacher	Meerim Tashtanova	mtashtanova@bis.kg
Grade 4 Yellow Homeroom Teacher	Ana Marie Alcalá	aalcala@bis.kg
Grade 4 Yellow Co-Teacher	Aigerim Zhumabayeva	azhumabayeva@bis.kg
Grade 5 Blue Homeroom Teacher	Rona Butler	rbutler@bis.kg
Grade 5 Blue Co-Teacher	Zharkynai Ilebaeva	zhilebaeva@bis.kg
Grade 5 Yellow Homeroom Teacher	Rebecca Peters	rpeters@bis.kg
Grade 5 Yellow Co-Teacher	Roza Amanbekova	ramanbekova@bis.kg
Grade 6 Form Teachers	Marc Garreta Adele Antheunissens	mgarreta@bis.kg aantheunissens@bis.kg
Grade 7 Form Teachers	Asel Orunbekova Daniel Cullington	aorunbekova@bis.kg dcullington@bis.kg
Grade 8 Form Teachers	Gulbara Akunova Stephen Labanowich	gakunova@bis.kg slabanowich@bis.kg
Grade 9 Form Teachers	Aigul Sakieva Aleksander Sheyerman	asakieva@bis.kg asheyerman@bis.kg
Grade 10 Form Teachers	Nadia El Aoud Ray Benton- Evans	nelaoud@bis.kg revans@bis.kg
Grade 11 Form Teachers	Andrew Wheeler Lailo Youssoup-Akhounova	awheeler@bis.kg lyoussoup@bis.kg
Grade 12 Form Teachers	Helene Fick Jan Scott	hfick@bis.kg jscott@bis.kg

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

BAILANYSH NEWS
Connecting the BIS Community

www.bailanysh.com



BIS Instagram - [@bis.kg](#)



BIS Alumni Association - [@bis_alumni](#)



BIS Facebook - facebook.com/biskgz



Act for Community - [@actcom.bis](#)



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

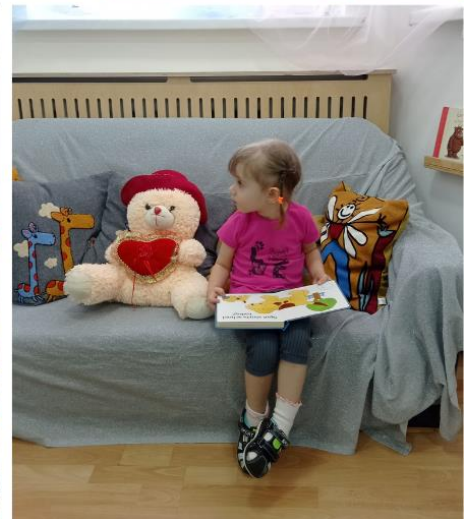


PRESCHOOL 1

We were thrilled to embark on our adventure of fun and discovery, welcoming the Preschool 1 newcomers into our journey of joy and learning! The students in

Preschool 1 made many new friends, learned how to share toys, play together, and had a great time.

Ms. Guldana, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week, our friends in Preschool 2 embarked on their first unit, "Who We Are." We began by discussing the most important people in their lives - their families. To make our learning even more exciting, we brought out family pictures for everyone to share. Our creative friends also painted colorful houses, and then they glued their family members onto their houses. We added a musical touch to our learning by singing the beloved "Finger Family" song. With big smiles, we sang and pointed to each family member in the song.

Afterward, we got hands-on and created adorable family member crafts to go along with the song. Furthermore, our reading corner came alive with a variety of books about family members. Every day, we read stories about parents, siblings, and grandparents. The children eagerly listened and engaged in conversations about their own families. During our Art lesson, we continued the theme of family by creating family crafts. Next week, we will continue to talk about our families.

Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

What an exciting week for our Preschool 3 friends. We got to explore our class a little more and enjoyed recapping the number 1, 2 and 3 this week. We then started learning our first sound, the letter 's' and we learned that 's' is for sand, shoes, socks, sandwich, and

sing. We also practiced writing the letter 's' and discovered that writing can be a lot of fun. Next week we will recap the number 4,5 and 6 and we will learn about the letter 'a'.

Ms. Carmen, Head of Preschool

