



**Bishkek  
International  
School**

**VOICES**



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 3 / 2024-25

6<sup>th</sup> September 2024

### GRADE 9 FORM TRIP TO ISSYK-KUL

The Grade 9 students enjoyed a form trip to Issyk-Kul, where they participated in outdoor activities and team-building games. They explored the natural beauty of the lake and learned about its ecological significance, while also strengthening their bonds with classmates through fun games. This experience not only allowed them to unwind from their academic routine but also helped foster a sense of community within the class.

The trip was a memorable experience, providing both fun and valuable lessons outside the classroom.





# Aspiring Bakers of BIS



Grade 0 made braided bread that enlivened the senses as part of our Unit of Inquiry, "Who We Are." The braids represented the joining of people. The students and teachers kneaded and rolled the dough together, making small loaves for each and everyone. Students indulged in the experience of feeling and smelling the

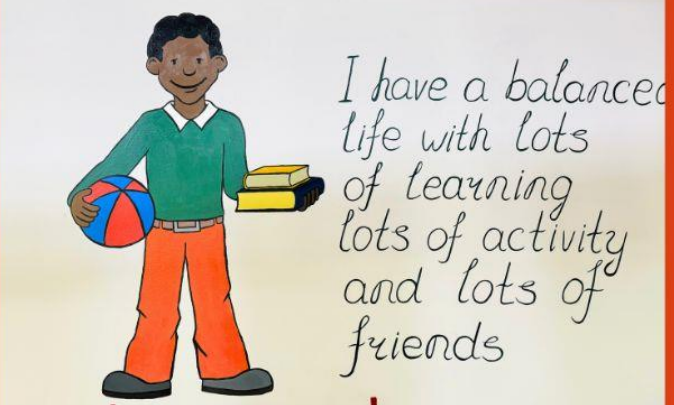
bread mixture. Vocabulary was elicited such as, 'sticky,' 'soft' and 'sweet.' The ingredients included water, flour, yeast, eggs, honey and sunflower oil. Grade 0 socially interacted while using fine, gross motor and problem solving skills. Rolling and flattening the dough, and then dividing it into three strands to be braided, helped children practise using both hands in a coordinated way.

Children watched as the dough rose. Next, the braided dough was baked and removed from the oven to cool. Another sense was stimulated – taste. Children and teachers alike, ate pillowy-soft creations with a hint of honey. The sweet smell of the bread baking in the oven was matched by the students' success. The aspiring bakers explored and experienced a real-life activity using various senses, an important ingredient of this unit. Making the braided loaves also delivered a feel good factor. This hands-on and fun activity gave the students ownership over what they produced, which added to their excitement.





PYP Unit of Inquiry

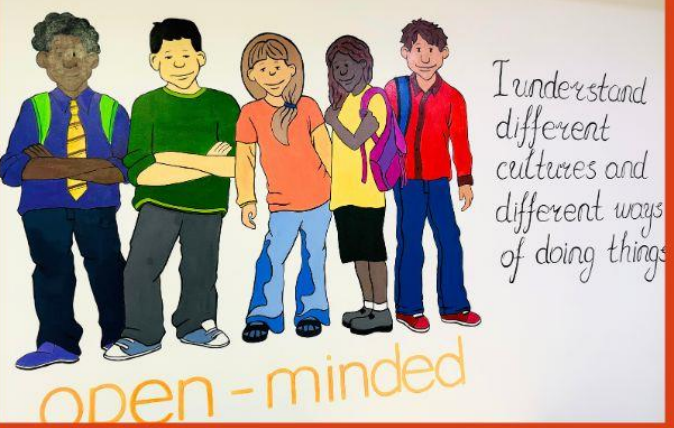


Balanced

## Bringing Learning to Life

Our school walls decorated with colorful drawings can transform a learning environment into a vibrant, welcoming space. These creative murals not only beautify the surroundings but also inspire students, reflecting the school's values and encouraging imagination. From educational themes to student-led projects, wall art can be a powerful tool for fostering a sense of community and pride.

These artistic expressions also serve as a reminder that creativity and learning go hand in hand.



open-minded



## NEW FACES AT BIS: MR. DANIEL

Hello, my name is Daniel Bilog, and I am excited to join the vibrant community at Bishkek International School as the new 4th grade homeroom teacher. Originally from the Philippines, I earned my Bachelor's degree in Education from the Philippine Normal University. I also had the enriching experience of spending a semester at Gwangju National University of Education in Gwangju, South Korea, as part of a student exchange program. With nearly 13 years of teaching experience, including almost a decade in international schools, I am passionate about fostering a love for reading and mathematics among my students. I am a strong believer in developing a growth mindset, encouraging students to embrace challenges and view them as opportunities for growth.



My family and I recently moved to Bishkek, and we have quickly fallen in love with this beautiful city. My wife and our two-year-old daughter are enjoying exploring the local culture and scenery. I recently had the pleasure of visiting Ala Archa National Park with other teachers, and it was a



wonderful experience. The natural beauty of the park is truly breathtaking, and it was a great opportunity to bond with my colleagues. In my free time, I love playing basketball, which is also the most popular sport in the Philippines.

As an educator, my goal is to inspire students to become lifelong learners. I believe that education is not just about acquiring knowledge but also about developing the skills and mindset necessary to navigate an ever-changing world. I look forward to working with the wonderful students and staff at Bishkek International School to create a dynamic and supportive learning environment.

**Mr. Daniel, Grade 4Blue Homeroom Teacher**

## SCHEDULE OF CLASS PERFORMANCES AT SCHOOL FESTIVALS

We are pleased to announce the class placements for upcoming performances at festivals and school events this academic year. We look forward to showcasing our students' talents and invite you to join us in supporting their achievements. Below is the allocation of classes to events for the upcoming terms:

		Performing Arts Events				
		Term 1	Term 2	Term 3	Term 4	Term 4
		Asia Day	Anniversary Show	Norouz	Europe Day	Africa Day
Preschool	Not in term 1	ALL	ALL	Preschool 1, 2	Preschool 3	
Lower PYP	Grade 2			Grade 1	Grade 0	
Upper PYP	Grade 5			Grade 4	Grade 3	
MYP	Grade 8			Grade 7	Grade 6	

**Ms. Munara, Head of Performing Arts**

## WRITING CENTER

The Writing Centre is officially open to receive student submissions for this academic year! The Writing Centre offers a platform for students to receive feedback and support on their writing (academic or otherwise), from our group of Student Tutors.

We encourage the students to submit their writing to us through our [website](#) for review if you want feedback. This applies to assignments, IGCSE and IB coursework, personal writing, and university/college-related writing.

# BIS Writing Center

## Request Help from the Writing Center

**Students:** Request feedback on a piece of writing by clicking below.

**Teachers:** Assign a student or your whole class to get feedback from the writing center. Then send us information about your assignment by clicking below.

**Note:** Students need to submit their papers to the Writing Center at least **THREE DAYS** before they need a response.

Students

Teachers

### Grade 8 Students Conduct Sugar Tests in Science Lab

During their recent science lesson, Grade 8 students explored the chemistry of food by testing various samples for the presence of sugar. Using Benedict's solution, they observed color changes that indicated whether sugar was present in each sample.

This hands-on experiment helped students understand the science behind everyday foods and enhanced their practical lab skills.



## SCHOOL COUNSELLOR'S CORNER: SUPPORTING OUR STUDENTS EVERY STEP OF THE WAY

Dear Students, Parents, and Guardians,

Welcome to this month's edition of our school newsletter! As your school counsellors, we are here to support your child's growth, both academically and emotionally, through every phase of their education. Whether your child is in primary school, middle school, or high school, we want to ensure that they feel supported, understood, and prepared for whatever challenges or opportunities come their way.

**Primary School: Building Strong Foundations** In primary school, our focus is on helping students develop essential social and emotional skills that will serve them for years to come. We work closely with young learners to help them adjust to the school environment, build positive relationships, and manage their emotions in a healthy way.

**Middle School: Navigating the Transition** Middle school can be an exciting yet challenging time for students as they transition from childhood to adolescence. We provide guidance to help them handle academic pressures, peer relationships, and the emotional changes that often come with this stage of development. Our goal is to equip middle schoolers with the tools to build resilience and make positive decisions.

**High School: Preparing for the Future** High school is a critical time for students as they prepare for life after graduation. As counsellors, we support students in managing stress, handling social pressures, and finding balance between school, extracurricular activities, and personal life.

Whether it's offering a listening ear, providing academic guidance, or helping students develop life skills, we are dedicated to the well-being of each and every student. Please don't hesitate to reach out to us at any time with questions, concerns, or just to check in!

To refer your child use this [link](#) and to refer yourself as a student use this [link](#).

Here's to a fantastic year ahead!

**Warmly, Your School Counseling Team, Ms. Meerim, Ms. Asmana and Ms. Valeria**



### STAFF PROFILES

Get to know our dedicated staff better by visiting the Staff Team section on our school [website](#). Each profile highlights the unique talents, qualifications, and experiences of our staff.

[Specialist Teaching Team](#)

[PYP Homeroom Team](#)

[Middle and High School Form Teachers](#)

[Academic Division Leaders](#)

[Learning Diversity and Inclusion Counseling Team](#)

[Administration Team](#)

[Management Board](#)

## EMERGENCY CONTACTS FOR PARENTS & GUARDIANS

Emergencies are very rare events, which we do not expect to happen but we need to be prepared for in case they do. For example, we are in an earthquake zone and it is always possible that we may have a serious earthquake one day.

In case we need to contact you during any emergency, we must have your up-to-date contact information, so please complete this [Emergency Contact Survey](#).

In the event of an emergency, students will normally be kept at school until they are picked up by you or another adult you have identified and is listed in your emergency contact information. Anyone identified in your emergency contacts must:

- Be 18 years old or older
- Normally be available during the day
- Be known to your child
- Be aware and able to assume this responsibility

As well as completing the form, please ensure that your children know that they should follow staff instruction during any emergency. Planning ahead will help alleviate concern during emergencies.

In case of an emergency, please:

- a. Be patient if you cannot get through to the school telephone during an emergency since telephone lines may be needed for other emergency communication
- b. Normally wait for school personnel to contact you to request pick-up of your child or, if you are otherwise aware of an emergency that requires pickup, please arrange for someone listed in your emergency contacts to proceed to the school.

Any decision to keep students at school or to request pick-up will be based upon the status of any emergency and whether or not streets in the area are open for travel.

If an emergency takes place when students are off-site (e.g. an educational visit), responsible staff will take care of students and ask for assistance via contact with the school.

**Mirzat Osmonova, Head of Administration**

## THE HOUSE SYSTEM


The House System is designed to foster healthy competition, 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 the accumulation of house points, which are tallied throughout the year to determine the overall winning House.

Each student is assigned to one of the Houses, ensuring a balanced mix of students across all year groups and an even distribution of students and staff between Houses. Find out which House you're in by clicking [HERE](#).

Our dedicated House Leaders are ready to inspire and support students, parents, and staff through every challenge and celebration ahead.


Together, let's make this an unforgettable year filled with growth, teamwork, and excellence. Go Houses!

**This year our House Leaders are:**



**PHOENIXES**

Mr. Daniel  
Ms. Claire



**PIRANHAS**

Mr. Aaron  
Ms. Deniz



**SNOW LEOPARDS**

Mr. Bolotbek  
Mr. Matthew  
Ms. Erkeaiym



# Spirit Day

## Dress up like a teacher

on 9th of September

Both students and staff are encouraged to participate.



### STEP 1

Pick the favourite teacher attire

### STEP 2

Come to reception to get house points

### STEP 3

Earn 10 House Points for participating!



## ASIA DAY FESTIVAL SATURDAY 28 SEPTEMBER AT BIS – REQUEST FOR COUNTRY/CULTURE DISPLAYS & ACTIVITIES

The BIS Asia Day Festival is on Saturday 28th 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 complete this form, so that we can add your country or culture to the postcards for stamp collections as children move around the event.



# 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, 28TH OF SEPTEMBER, 2024**

**10.00 AM TO 13.00 PM**

**BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL**

**67A BRONIROVANNAYA ST.**

## LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for September 9<sup>th</sup> – 13<sup>th</sup> 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 – 2024/25 Calendar is [here](#)

- 13 September, Friday: All Parents Meeting
- 26 September – 4 October: PYP ‘Bring your Parents to School’ days
- 28 September, Saturday: Asia Day Festival
- 1 October, Tuesday: Sports Day in Spartak Stadium: Grade 4 to 12
- 17 October, Thursday: Individual Parents-Teacher Meetings
- 18 October, Friday: UN Day at BIS
- 21-25 October: Autumn/Fall Break

## KEEP IN TOUCH

If you have anything you want to discuss or suggestions for the school, please contact your child’s Homeroom or Form Teacher and they will either answer directly or pass the message on to the right person. Messages can be sent in English or Russian, or in your own language. If you do not know the correct email address for the person you want to write to, please write to [info@bis.kg](mailto:info@bis.kg) and our Reception will forward your email to the right person. Homeroom and Form Teachers for 2024/25 are given below:

Position	Name	Contact
BIS Reception	Albina / Meerim / Medina	<a href="mailto:info@bis.kg">info@bis.kg</a> ; 0312 214 406, 0770 214 406
School Bus enquiries	Burmakan Birnazarova	<a href="mailto:bus@bis.kg">bus@bis.kg</a>
ECA (extra-curricular activities) enquiries	Bojana Askovic / Nazira Almasbekova	<a href="mailto:eca@bis.kg">eca@bis.kg</a>
ManageBac & SchoolsBuddy Admin	Esentur Dildebekov	<a href="mailto:edildebekov@bis.kg">edildebekov@bis.kg</a>
Admissions Officers	Gulsara Sheraly kyzy / Begimai Urmanbetova	<a href="mailto:admissions@bis.kg">admissions@bis.kg</a> ; 0706 200 200
Registrar	Nurbek Chagataev	<a href="mailto:nchagataev@bis.kg">nchagataev@bis.kg</a>
Doctor	Asel Turusbaeva	<a href="mailto:doctor@bis.kg">doctor@bis.kg</a>
Head of School	David Grant	<a href="mailto:dgrant@bis.kg">dgrant@bis.kg</a>
Head of Administration	Mirzat Osmonova	<a href="mailto:mosmonova@bis.kg">mosmonova@bis.kg</a>
High School Assistant Principal	Nurbek Chagataev	<a href="mailto:nchagataev@bis.kg">nchagataev@bis.kg</a>
Middle School Assistant Principal	Gulbara Akunova	<a href="mailto:gakunova@bis.kg">gakunova@bis.kg</a>
Primary School Assistant Principal	Elina Ignatova	<a href="mailto:eignatova@bis.kg">eignatova@bis.kg</a>
IGCSE & DP Coordinator	Makiko Inaba	<a href="mailto:minaba@bis.kg">minaba@bis.kg</a>
MYP Coordinator	Nadine Lemoine	<a href="mailto:nlemoine@bis.kg">nlemoine@bis.kg</a>
PYP Coordinator	Maria Corbett	<a href="mailto:mcorbett@bis.kg">mcorbett@bis.kg</a>
National Curriculum Coordinator	Chynara Abdyaeva	<a href="mailto:cabdyaeva@bis.kg">cabdyaeva@bis.kg</a>
Learning Diversity, Inclusion and Counselling (LDIC) Coordinator	Kyzjibek Tekenova	<a href="mailto:ktekenova@bis.kg">ktekenova@bis.kg</a>
Chair of the Governing Board (GB)	Fred Huston	<a href="mailto:gbchair@bis.kg">gbchair@bis.kg</a>
Governing Board Secretary	Alina Seitalieva	<a href="mailto:gbsec@bis.kg">gbsec@bis.kg</a>

Parents Association President	JJ Gurga	<a href="mailto:papres@bis.kg">papres@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:pamc@bis.kg">pamc@bis.kg</a>
Parents Association Secretary	Secretary	<a href="mailto:pasec@bis.kg">pasec@bis.kg</a>
Homeroom/Form Classes		
Preschool 1	Guldana Muratalieva & Laura Meliou	<a href="mailto:gmuratalieva@bis.kg">gmuratalieva@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:lmeloliu@bis.kg">lmeloliu@bis.kg</a>
Preschool 2	Nuraida Asanbaeva & Zharkyn Oskonbaeva	<a href="mailto:nasanbaeva@bis.kg">nasanbaeva@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:joskonbaeva@bis.kg">joskonbaeva@bis.kg</a>
Preschool 3	Bivo Chongo & Kulkayir Junusheva & Kudrat Niyazov & Nurzat Osmonova	<a href="mailto:bchongo@bis.kg">bchongo@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:kjunusheva@bis.kg">kjunusheva@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:kniiazov@bis.kg">kniiazov@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:nosmonova@bis.kg">nosmonova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 0 Blue	Paul Fahidi & Nargiza Zhusupova	<a href="mailto:pfahidi@bis.kg">pfahidi@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:nzhusupova@bis.kg">nzhusupova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 0 Yellow	Peiyong Lin & Karina Bolotkanova	<a href="mailto:plin@bis.kg">plin@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:kbolotkanova@bis.kg">kbolotkanova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 1 Blue	Nelia Mwanza & Begaiym Djumaeva	<a href="mailto:nmwanza@bis.kg">nmwanza@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:bdjumaeva@bis.kg">bdjumaeva@bis.kg</a>
Grade 1 Yellow	Begimai Keneshbekova & Rabiia Erkulova	<a href="mailto:bkeneshbekova@bis.kg">bkeneshbekova@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:rerkulova@bis.kg">rerkulova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 2 Blue	Morgan Chadderton & Kanykei Tursunalieva	<a href="mailto:mchadderton@bis.kg">mchadderton@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:ktursunalieva@bis.kg">ktursunalieva@bis.kg</a>
Grade 2 Yellow	Oksana Chichilova & Aike Uralieva	<a href="mailto:ochichilova@bis.kg">ochichilova@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:auralieva@bis.kg">auralieva@bis.kg</a>
Grade 3 Blue	Michaela Saber & Deniz Karybaeva	<a href="mailto:msaber@bis.kg">msaber@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:dkarybaeva@bis.kg">dkarybaeva@bis.kg</a>
Grade 3 Yellow	Genevieve Maser & Tilekbek Niazaliev	<a href="mailto:gmaser@bis.kg">gmaser@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:tniazaliev@bis.kg">tniazaliev@bis.kg</a>
Grade 4 Blue	Daniel Bilog & Gulmira Sabyrbekova	<a href="mailto:sking@bis.kg">sking@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:mtashtanova@bis.kg">mtashtanova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 4 Yellow	Ana Marie Alcala & Aizirek Dzhakypbekova	<a href="mailto:aalcala@bis.kg">aalcala@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:adzhakypbekova@bis.kg">adzhakypbekova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 5 Blue	Rona Butler & Zharkynai Iiebaeva	<a href="mailto:rbutler@bis.kg">rbutler@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:zhilebaeva@bis.kg">zhilebaeva@bis.kg</a>
Grade 5 Yellow	Natalie Small & Sezim Tologonova	<a href="mailto:nsmall@bis.kg">nsmall@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:stologonova@bis.kg">stologonova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 6	Marc Navo Garreta & Janyl Namazbekova	<a href="mailto:mgarreta@bis.kg">mgarreta@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:jnamazbekova@bis.kg">jnamazbekova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 7	Francois Spies & Nurzhamal Alymova	<a href="mailto:fspies@bis.kg">fspies@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:nalymova@bis.kg">nalymova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 8	Steve Wagenseller & Ann Smirnova	<a href="mailto:swagenseller@bis.kg">swagenseller@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:asmirnova@bis.kg">asmirnova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 9	Lane Spies & Stephen Labanowich	<a href="mailto:lspies@bis.kg">lspies@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:slabanowich@bis.kg">slabanowich@bis.kg</a>
Grade 10	Aigul Sakieva & Aleksander Sheyerman	<a href="mailto:asakieva@bis.kg">asakieva@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:asheyerman@bis.kg">asheyerman@bis.kg</a>
Grade 11	Jan Scott & Nazira Abakirova	<a href="mailto:jscott@bis.kg">jscott@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:nabakirova@bis.kg">nabakirova@bis.kg</a>
Grade 12	Andrew Wheeler & Claire Berger	<a href="mailto:awheeler@bis.kg">awheeler@bis.kg</a> ; <a href="mailto:cberger@bis.kg">cberger@bis.kg</a>

## 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](http://www.bis.kg)

**BAILANYSH NEWS**  
Connecting the BIS Community

[www.bailanysh.com](http://www.bailanysh.com)



BIS Instagram - [@bis.kg](https://www.instagram.com/bis.kg)



BIS Alumni Association - [@bis\\_alumni](https://www.instagram.com/bis_alumni)



BIS Facebook - [facebook.com/biskgz](https://www.facebook.com/biskgz)



Act for Community - [@actcom.bis](https://www.instagram.com/actcom.bis)



Parents Association - [facebook.com/bis.parents.127](https://www.facebook.com/bis.parents.127)



## PRESCHOOL 1

We are very happy to observe the small successes of our young students every day. This week, the children started to get to know each other better, remember names, and play together. We are learning to be good friends and share toys. We covered the topic of germs and why we should wash our hands with soap. This week was busy and positive. We read many books, including "Pete the Kitty's First day of Preschool,"

"Llama Llama Misses Mama," "No, No, Yes, Yes," and many more. We sang songs like "Hello Everybody, How Are You Today," "Open Shut Them," "Wheels on the Bus Go Round and Round," "Daddy Finger, Where Are You," and others.

**Ms. Guldana, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher**



## PRESCHOOL 2

This week in Preschool 2, we began our first unit, "Who We Are." We started by talking about the most important people in our lives – our families! Our little friends learned that a "family" is made up of the people who live with them in their house.

To make our learning even more fun, our little ones brought in pictures of their families to share with everyone. They also painted colorful houses and then glued their family members to their houses. Afterward, they proudly showed their family pictures to the class, creating a warm and joyful atmosphere.

During circle time, we sang the "Finger Family" song to practice naming family members. Everyone sang along

with excitement, pointing to each family member mentioned in the song.

In math, we began learning about numbers by focusing on the number 1. We did various activities to recognize and practice the number 1, including crafting a dog with 1 bone! We also sorted family members by color and practiced identifying them.

We also enjoyed many other engaging activities this week, making it a productive and fun week full of learning!

**Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher**



### PRESCHOOL 3

This week in preschool, we kicked off our exciting new unit, "Who We Are," with the central idea, "Our actions and choices can impact our well-being".

In our Unit of Inquiry (UOI), we talked about our bodies and how making good choices keeps us healthy. The children enjoyed reading "The Very Hungry Caterpillar," which introduced them to healthy eating habits. For our fun activity, we made paper caterpillar costumes, and it was delightful to see the little ones transform into little caterpillars, running around the playground on a fruit scavenger hunt!

In math, we focused on counting and recognizing numbers from 1 to 4. Our little friends practiced by

counting the food items the hungry caterpillar ate in the story, which made learning fun and interactive.

For language and phonics, we introduced the sound of the letter "S" and explored words like Snake, Snow, Sun, Star, Six, and more. The little ones loved our language activity, where they created a Seahorse by cutting out a giant letter S from paper.

It has been a fantastic week filled with fun and learning, and we look forward to more exciting activities in the coming weeks! Thank you for your continued support!

**Ms. Bivo, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher**

