



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 20 / 2024-25

31st January 2025

CELEBRATING THE IB LEARNER PROFILE: THINKERS

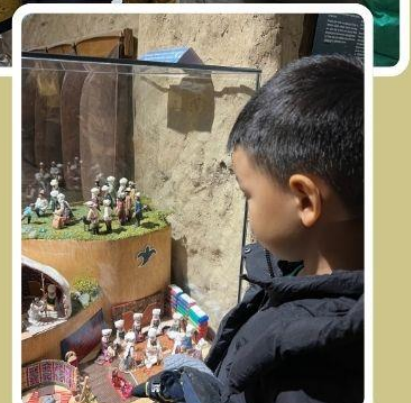
This week, students embraced the **IB Learner Profile: Thinkers** by engaging in a series of exciting challenges that encouraged thinking. Through interactive activities, they applied logic, problem-solving, and innovation to tackle various puzzles and tasks.

It was inspiring to see students analyzing, questioning, and exploring new ideas, demonstrating the qualities of true IB Thinkers.



GRADE 1 STUDENTS EXPLORE TRADITIONAL HOMES AT SUPARA ETHNO COMPLEX

On Thursday, Grade 1 students visited the Supara Ethno Complex to learn about different types of houses. They learned of the homes built of rocks, sticks, metals, wood, and clay. Also, they visited the museum, where they learned about the Nomad Kyrgyz house "yurt" and the different sides of the yurt, divided into a kitchen, closet, and sleeping part. They also inquired about the Kyrgyz people's lives, from the dishes that they used to the handmade carpets. Afterwards, the students ate a boorsok and had fun in a beautiful place.



GRADE 4 YELLOW HOMEROOM ACTIVITIES: EXPLORING NATURAL DISASTERS



Hands-on activities like experiments help us understand how natural hazards, such as volcanic eruptions and earthquakes, shape our planet. These events can create new landscapes, cause disasters, and impact lives, communities, and the environment. By learning about these connections, we can better prepare for and respond to these challenges!

VOLCANO BLAST! EXPLORING ERUPTIONS AND THEIR IMPACT ON PEOPLE AND THE ENVIRONMENT

It was an exciting and interesting experiment. I knew about volcanoes and how damaging eruptions are.

~Niel

It was so interesting because it showed me what a real volcanic eruption could be like and how it causes damage. I wonder, could a volcano pop up where you live?

The volcano experiment was very interesting, but I never realised that an eruption could be that powerful.



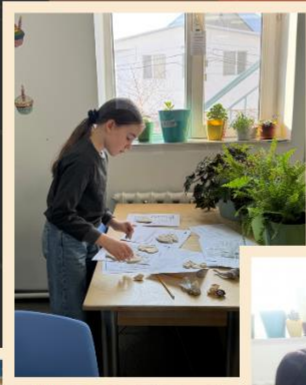
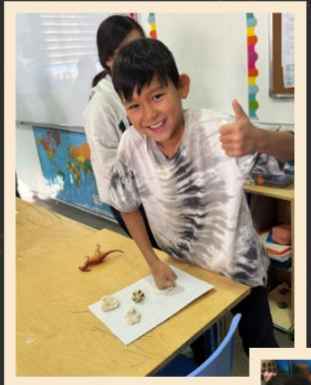
WHAT VOLCANOES AND EARTHQUAKES CAN TEACH US ABOUT THE PAST

~Marua

~Dameli

It was fun and interesting learning about fossils. I learned that a long time ago, the land might have been an ocean or sea. The fossils show that dinosaurs lived, and the land was once covered by water.

~Momoka



EARTHQUAKE-PROOF BUILDING CHALLENGE

Students were tasked with becoming engineers to design an earthquake-proof building using marshmallows and toothpicks. After building their structures, they tested them on a Jell-O earthquake simulator to see how well they held up and then made improvements based on their observations.

I wonder how the Japanese built structures that can withstand powerful earthquakes. I had so much fun imagining that I am an engineer and designing a building that would withstand earthquakes and our group won this experiment.

~Isaac

A good earthquake-proof building needs to have a big, wide and strong base. I think it is better if the building is not too high. It has to have strong support.

~Jonathan



I had fun learning about fossils, and I noticed that even Canyons could have been watery lands. I saw that there were fish and years later the sea got covered by land. After that there were fossils of reptiles.

~Emilia

I learned that modern earthquake proof buildings have shock absorbers and a pendulum to allow buildings to sway and not collapse.

~Alima



2025/01/30 12:00

CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

A huge well done to our award winners:

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):

Yuuna (Grade 1), **Yekta** (Grade 1), **Terutake** (Grade 1), **Tair** (Grade 1),
Kiriil (Grade 1), **Kaan** (Grade 1), **Thomas** (Grade 8)

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

Zihan (Grade 2), **Hael** (Grade 2), **Umar** (Grade 2), **Tamara** (Grade 2),
Alexandra (Grade 2), **Daniel** (Grade 2)



NEW FACES AT BIS: MS. NAYNA

Hello everyone! My name is Ms. Nayna, and I am excited to share a bit about myself as a member of the BIS community. I joined BIS in August last year, and this marks my first experience working abroad in an international school—a dream come true for me.

Originally from Bangladesh, I moved to London when I was just a year old. I feel incredibly fortunate to have grown up in such a diverse and multicultural city. My passion for travel and learning about different traditions and cultures has always been a part of who I am. With over 15 years of experience in the education sector, I have had the pleasure of working with children of various backgrounds, ages, and abilities. My teaching



journey has included the Early Years Foundation Stage and Key Stage 1, where I've delivered the British National Curriculum. I'm particularly skilled in teaching phonics, early mathematics, literacy, and science, and I strive to create an enthusiastic and creative learning environment for my students. I earned my Newly Qualified Teacher status while working in a Specialist School in London, where I supported children aged 5-7 with diverse learning needs, including Autism, global developmental delay, and ADHD.

Interestingly, I had never heard of Kyrgyzstan until two years ago. After exploring parts of Far East Asia, I felt drawn to start exploring Central Asia. My husband, who worked for 25 years in local authorities in the UK as an accountant, decided to start his own business. He spent about six months in Bishkek, and during my winter vacation in 2023, I visited him. I was captivated by the stunning mountains and the rich culture of Kyrgyzstan, as well as the warm and welcoming people.

After returning to my teaching position in the UK, I realized that with my two daughters now grown, I should seize the opportunity to follow my dream of working abroad. BIS was the first international school I applied to, and I'm thrilled to be part of the LDIC, which I believe is one of the best departments within BIS. So far, my experience here has been incredibly positive, thanks to the support and kindness of the staff, students, and their families.

When I'm not at work, I love watching travel and food blogger videos. Cooking dishes from around the world is another passion of mine; I believe that the spices and herbs we use can teach us so much about a country's history, culture, and traditions.

I'm looking forward to continuing my journey here at BIS and sharing my love for learning and exploration with my students and colleagues!



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Ms. Nayna, Learning Diversity and Inclusion Specialist

Preschool & Primary Winter Sports Day

Join us for an exciting Winter Sports Day at BIS, exclusively for Preschool & Primary School students—fun, teamwork, and sports await!

7 FEBRUARY, FRIDAY

**Grade 2 - Grade 5
Chunkurchak Ski Base**

**Preschool 2 - Grade 1
Ala Archa Park**



DATE 08 FEBRUARY, TIME 9.30

BISHKEK INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL



BIS INTER- SCHOOL TEAM CHESS TOURNAMENT 2025



TEAMS RECEIVE DIPLOMAS, CUPS,
AND CASH PRIZES AS FOLLOWS:

1ST PLACE RECEIVES 12,000 KGS.

2ND PLACE RECEIVES 9,000 KGS.

3RD PLACE RECEIVES 7,000 KGS.

SEPARATE PRIZES ARE PROVIDED FOR THE
BEST PLAYERS ON THE BOARDS.

ALL PARTICIPANTS GET A CERTIFICATE OF
PARTICIPATION



PROGRAM: TOURNAMENT

LUNCH, COFFEE BREAK



PRE-REGISTRATION BEFORE FEBRUARY 6

PARTICIPATION FEE 2500 KGS FOR EACH TEAM

M BANK: +996755 061016

LOCATION: BISHKEK, ST. BRONIROVANNAYA 67 A

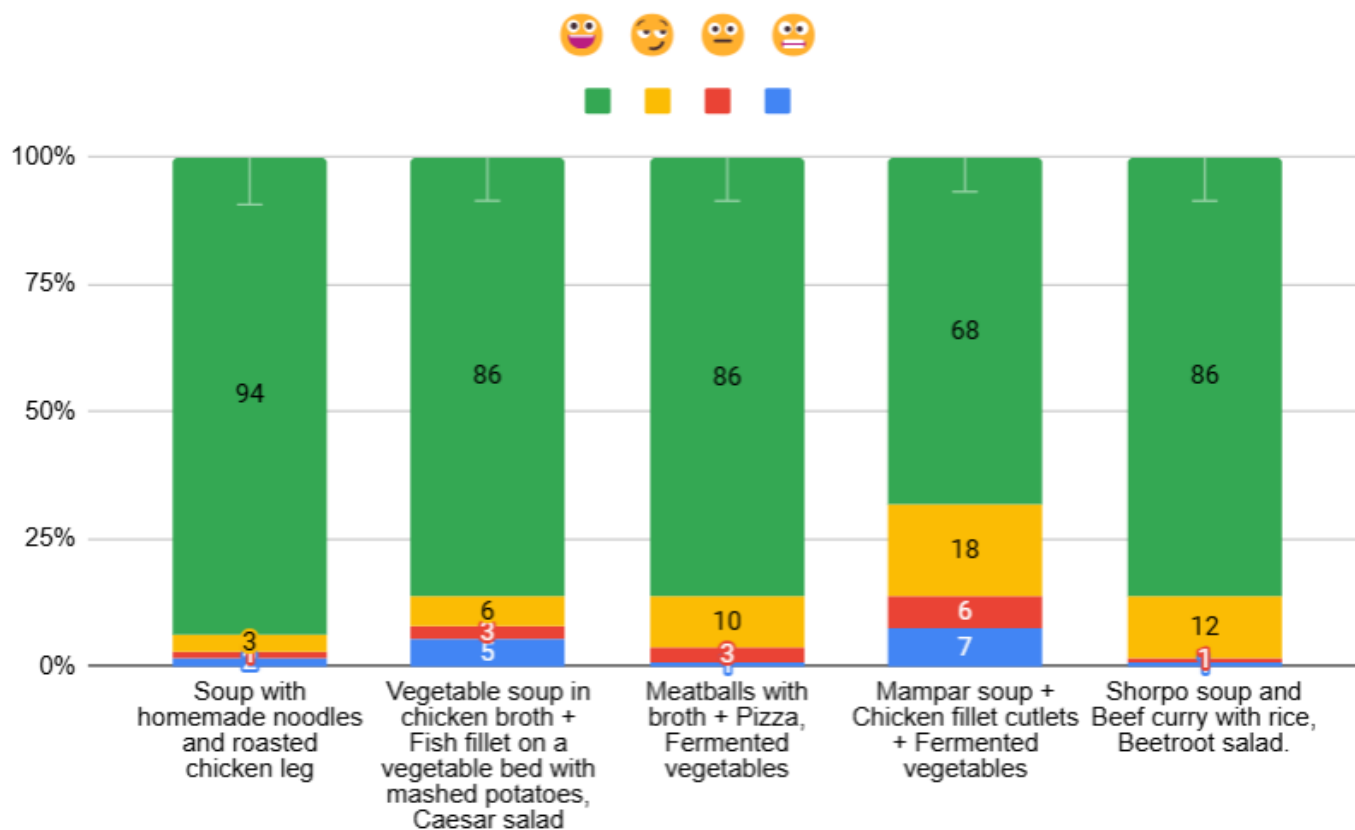
PHONE: 0755 061016

SEND YOUR APPLICATION, BIRTH CERTIFICATE, SCHOOL

CERTIFICATES TO: jnamazbekova@bis.kg

SCHOOL FOOD – STUDENT FEEDBACK & NEW MENU

Starting Monday, 13 January 2025, we introduced a [new menu](#) designed by a professional nutrition specialist. Parents were also invited to try this new menu, and they have been sampling the lunches and providing immediate feedback by selecting smiley or unsmiling faces on the café screen based on their satisfaction with the food each day. We have also been surveying students from G0–G12 and staff using the same system since Monday. **The results of these surveys for Menu C can be found below.**



Green bars represent the % who gave the full smiley, orange bars the almost happy smiley.

If you have any feedback or suggestions, please email our Nutrition Committee nutrition@bis.kg.

Mirzat Osmonova, Head of Administration, Deputy Head of School

JANUARY SCHOLASTIC BOOK CLUB



OUR JANUARY BOOK CLUB IS HERE!

The deadline for orders is **Monday, February 3, 2025.**

The books will be delivered directly to BIS from the UK at the beginning of March.

This time, to reduce paper usage, we are not providing paper leaflets. Instead, you can browse the selection and place your order online using the following link:

<http://eu-schools.scholastic.co.uk/bishkekinternationalschool>

Remember: EVERY ORDER EARNS FREE BOOKS FOR OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY!

OUR CURRICULUM

The curriculum for each level of the school are available online for you to review. Please check the curriculum and let us know if you have any questions.

[Preschool to G5 PYP Curriculum 24/25](#) – any questions, email Maria Corbett, PYP Coordinator, mcorbett@bis.kg

[Grade 6-8 MYP Curriculum 24/25](#) – any questions, email Nadine Lemoine, MYP Coordinator, nlemoine@bis.kg

[Grade 9-10 IGCSE Curriculum 24/25](#) – any questions, email Makiko Inaba, IGCSE Coordinator, minaba@bi.kg

[Grade 11-12 DP Curriculum 24/25](#) – any questions, email Makiko Inaba, DP Coordinator, minaba@bis.kg

NEW SCHOOL MENU

The lunch menu for February 3-7 is **Menu D**. You can view the [new 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](#)

- 7 February, Friday: Primary & Preschool Winter Sports Day
- 8 February, Saturday: Interschool Chess Tournament
- 8-9 February, Saturday-Sunday: AISB Basketball Tournament
- 14 February, Friday: Valentine’s Day organized by Students
- 19-22 February: CAFA Basketball, Astana
- 20 February, Thursday: Languages in Our Lives Day
- 23 February, Sunday: Homeland Defender’s Day
- 27 February, Thursday: STEM Fair

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 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 / Zhanara	info@bis.kg ; 0312 214 406, 0770 214 406
School Bus enquiries	Burmakan Birnazarova	bus@bis.kg
ECA (extra-curricular activities)	Bojana Askovic / Nazira Almasbekova	eca@bis.kg
ManageBac & SchoolsBuddy Admin	Esentur Dildebekov	edildebekov@bis.kg
Admissions Officers	Gulsara Sheraly kyzy / 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 Assistant Principal	Nurbek Chagataev	nchagataev@bis.kg
Middle School Assistant Principal	Gulbara Akunova	gakunova@bis.kg
Primary School Assistant Principal	Elina Ignatova	eignatova@bis.kg
IGCSE & DP Coordinator	Makiko Inaba	minaba@bis.kg
MYP Coordinator	Nadine Lemoine	nlemoine@bis.kg
PYP Coordinator	Maria Corbett	mcorbett@bis.kg
National Curriculum Coordinator	Chynara Abdyaeva	cabdyaeva@bis.kg

Learning Diversity, Inclusion and Counselling (LDIC) Coordinator	Kyzjibek Tekenova	ktekenova@bis.kg
Chair of the Governing Board (GB)	Fred Huston	gbchair@bis.kg
Governing Board Secretary	Alina Seitalieva	gbsec@bis.kg
Parents Association President	JJ Gurga	papres@bis.kg ; pamc@bis.kg
Parents Association Secretary	Alina Seitalieva	pasec@bis.kg

Homeroom/Form Classes

Preschool 1	Laura Meliou & Aizhan Zhamanakova	lmeloliu@bis.kg ; azhamanakova@bis.kg
Preschool 2	Nuraida Asanbaeva & Zharkyn Oskonbaeva	nanasbaeva@bis.kg ; joskonbaeva@bis.kg
Preschool 3	Bivo Chongo & Kulkayir Junusheva & Nurzat Osmonova	bchongo@bis.kg ; kjunusheva@bis.kg ; nosmonova@bis.kg
Grade 0 Blue	Paul Fahidi & Nargiza Zhusupova	pfahidi@bis.kg ; nzhusupova@bis.kg
Grade 0 Yellow	Peiying Lin & Karina Bolotkanova	plin@bis.kg ; kbolotkanova@bis.kg
Grade 1 Blue	Nelia Mwanza & Begaiym Djumaeva	nmwanza@bis.kg ; bdjumaeva@bis.kg
Grade 1 Yellow	Begimai Keneshbekova & Rabiia Erkulova	bkeneshbekova@bis.kg ; rerkulova@bis.kg
Grade 2 Blue	Morgan Chadderton & Kanykei Tursunalieva	mchadderton@bis.kg ; ktursunalieva@bis.kg
Grade 2 Yellow	Oksana Chichilova & Aike Uralieva	ochichilova@bis.kg ; auralieva@bis.kg
Grade 3 Blue	Michaela Saber & Deniz Karybaeva	msaber@bis.kg ; dkarybaeva@bis.kg
Grade 3 Yellow	Genevieve Maser & Altynai Kalieva	gmaser@bis.kg ; alkalieva@bis.kg
Grade 4 Blue	Daniel Bilog & Gulmira Sabyrbekova	dbilog@bis.kg ; gsabyrbekova@bis.kg
Grade 4 Yellow	Ana Marie Alcala & Aizirek Dzhakypbekova	aalcala@bis.kg ; adzhakypbekova@bis.kg
Grade 5 Blue	Rona Butler & Zharkynai Ilebaeva	rbutler@bis.kg ; zhilebaeva@bis.kg
Grade 5 Yellow	Natalie Small & Sezim Tologonova	nsmall@bis.kg ; stologonova@bis.kg
Grade 6	Marc Navo Garreta & Janyl Namazbekova	mgarreta@bis.kg ; jnamazbekova@bis.kg
Grade 7	Francois Spies & Nurzhamal Alyмова	fspies@bis.kg ; nalymova@bis.kg
Grade 8	Steve Wagenseller & Ann Smirnova	swagenseller@bis.kg ; asmirnova@bis.kg
Grade 9	Lane Spies & Stephen Labanowich	lspies@bis.kg ; slabanowich@bis.kg
Grade 10	Aigul Sakieva & Aleksander Sheyerman	asakieva@bis.kg ; asheyerman@bis.kg
Grade 11	Jan Scott & Nazira Abakirova	jscott@bis.kg ; nabakirova@bis.kg
Grade 12	Andrew Wheeler & Claire Berger	awheeler@bis.kg ; cberger@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](https://facebook.com/biskgz)



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



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



PRESCHOOL 1

This week, Preschool 1 had a wonderful but very busy time learning about community helpers. We learned the names of some important people in our school community, like the baker, doctor, plumber, cleaner, and teacher. We also talked about what they do to help us.

On Monday, we had fun coloring wheels for an ambulance and a police car. We even made a car and played a role-play game! Nala was a doctor, checking

her friends as patients. Yuuri was a policeman, keeping everyone safe. Altay was driving an ambulance, and Almanbet was a hardworking worker. On Wednesday we played as barbers or hairstylists, cutting the bunny's hair. This helped us practice our motor skills. And guess what? We met a number-eating monster! This fun monster loves to eat numbers. Altay and Arien especially enjoyed playing with it.

It was such a great week, full of learning and fun!

Ms. Laura, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week in Preschool, we started talking about how people have different needs as they grow. First, we thought about what we needed when we were babies. Our little friends shared great ideas! They said babies need milk, pacifiers, diapers, strollers, and more. After that, they had so much fun gluing these items to their baby photos. They really enjoyed this activity!

In math, we learned about **small, medium, and big** sizes. We connected this to our unit by talking about how we start small and grow bigger. We also practiced recognizing the number **7**. The children did a great job!

For literacy, we started learning **letter sounds**, and this week we focused on the sound "s". Our little

friends learned words like **star, spider, snowman, and snake** that start with "s". We also found out that our friend **Sophia's** name begins with this sound! To help remember, we made a fun **snake craft** that looks like the letter "s".

On Friday, we had our first **"Show and Tell!"** The children brought their favorite toys and books. Each friend talked about their special item and shared it with the class. They had so much fun!

Next week, we will talk about what we need to grow. We are excited to hear our little friends' ideas and continue learning together! It was a fun and busy week.

Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

Land Transportation Week!

What an exciting and action-packed week we had in preschool! This week, we explored *Land Transportation*—learning why we use it and discovering all the different ways people and things move on land. The children had a blast naming various types of land transport and were amazed to learn that skateboards, scooters, and roller skates also count as land transport!

Our classroom transformed into roads and railroads as we engaged in hands-on activities. One of the highlights was crafting a **giant train** using boxes and paper! The children painted and decorated it with colorful wheels, bringing it to life. Their excitement and creativity made this activity truly magical!

We also became little scientists, experimenting with **ramps and wheels** to understand how vehicles move. We tested different objects like cubes, blocks,

balls, and beads—and discovered that only round objects made it to the finish line! This hands-on experience helped us understand why wheels are so important for transportation.

In **Math**, we practiced counting from **0 to 14** and explored **2D shapes** all around us. The children loved spotting shapes in their surroundings—our whiteboard became a rectangle, round tables were circles, LEGO blocks were squares, and cones looked like triangles. We even found shapes in vehicles—circle wheels, rectangle bodies, and square dashboards!

For **Phonics**, we focused on the letter "**U**", practicing its sound and formation. Using **colorful paint**, the children joyfully traced and wrote "U" with their fingers. We also learned fun words like *Unicorn*, *Umbrella*, and *Unicycle*!

It was a **week full of discovery, creativity, and fun!**

Ms. Bivo, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher

