



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 36 / 2024-25

6th June 2025

GRADE 5 OVERNIGHT TRIP TO CHON KEMIN

Our Grade 5 students enjoyed a special overnight trip to Chon Kemin as part of their final year in the Primary School. The adventure included rafting, swimming, delicious food, a cozy campfire, and of course, the classic treat of toasted marshmallows. It was a joyful and memorable moment in this important stage of their journey filled with laughter, friendship, and unforgettable memories.





Grade 4 Yellow Educational Visit: Pizza-Making Fun at Dodo and Adventures at Sky Park





Pizza-Making Fun with Grade 4 Blue



GOVERNING BOARD MEETING

The final Governing Board meeting of the 2024/25 school year took place on 4th of June 2025, addressing key issues shaping the future of the school.

A major topic was the potential development of a new campus near Tash Dobo. The Board reviewed updates on the consolidation of land purchases and longer-term plans for campus construction.

Ten new student scholarships were approved following a competitive selection process from nearly 200 applicants.

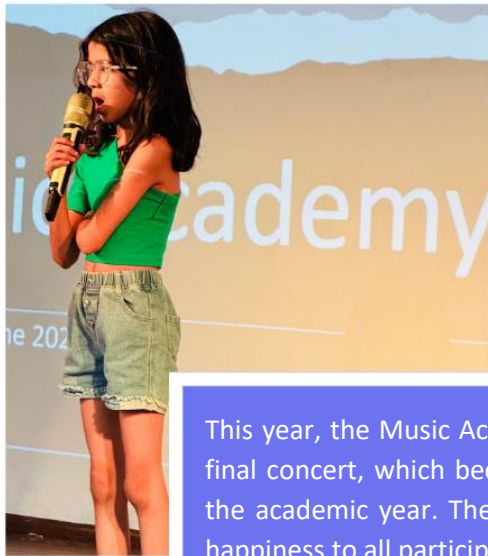
The Board also discussed preparations for the upcoming CLP Review in October, focusing on finalizing key policies and strengthening HR systems. Initial results from International Schools Assessment (ISA) for Grades 3-9 show mixed performance, with targeted support required for certain grade levels.

Finally, the Board confirmed meeting dates for 2025/26 and noted the upcoming fall elections for the Governing Board, Parents Association, and Advisory Council.

As the school year concluded, the Board reaffirmed its commitment to long-term planning, community trust, and the continued growth of the school's programs and values.

Alina Seitalieva, Governance and Events Officer

THE MUSIC ACADEMY CONCLUDES THE SCHOOL YEAR WITH A BRIGHT FINAL CONCERT



This year, the Music Academy once again delighted us with its final concert, which became a joyful and festive conclusion to the academic year. The event brought excitement, pride, and happiness to all participants and audience members.

Throughout the year, our students worked diligently, developed their talents, and achieved impressive results through their passion for music and dedication. We are proud of each and every one of them!

We sincerely thank the parents for their continued support and for sharing the value of music education with us. Special thanks go to our wonderful music teachers. Your commitment, patience, and guidance continue to inspire our students to grow and thrive.

Ms. Munara, Head of the Performing Arts Department



CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

A HUGE WELL DONE TO OUR AWARD WINNERS:

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):

Alima, Alec, Adil, Noah, Mikhail, Hyunjun, Alexandra, Aruuke, Daria (Grade 2), Zhanel (Grade 7)

Ms. Janyl, Ms. Nurzhamal

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

Diana, Aiyang, Blakeslee (Grade 2), Mr. Marc, Mr. Francois

KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinker, Inquirer):

Cullen, Tamara, Deniz, Timur, Raiana, Zihan, Zijin (Grade 2), Hisaki (Grade 7)

Resilient: The path may be difficult, but I will succeed:

Ms. Anna

SUPPORTING CHILDREN THROUGH TRANSITIONS

As the school year comes to an end, many families in our community are preparing for change—whether moving away, saying goodbye to friends, or transitioning to a new grade. These changes, while a natural part of international school life, can bring a mix of emotions for both children and adults.

Transitions often come with a sense of loss—loss of routines, friendships, or a familiar environment. This can lead to feelings of sadness, frustration, or anxiety, even when children don't have the words to express them. Talking openly about these emotions, offering comfort, and simply being present can help children process and manage change.

Books like *Third Culture Kids* and *The Grief Tower* highlight the “hidden losses” children may experience during transitions—those small but significant changes that aren't always acknowledged. Naming these feelings and showing empathy helps children feel understood and supported.

One helpful tool is the RAFT model (from the book *Third Culture Kids: The Experience of Growing Up Among Worlds*):

- **R**conciliation – Leave with peace and kindness.
- **A**ffirmation – Show appreciation to friends and teachers.
- **F**arewell – Say goodbye not just to people, but to places and routines.
- **T**hink destination – Talk positively about what comes next.

At BIS, we understand how important it is to support emotional wellbeing during times of change. We encourage families to talk together, share memories, and make space for all the emotions that come with transition. These moments help children grow more resilient and confident as they move forward.

For more resources on supporting children through times of change please see [School Transitions at Bishkek International School](#).

Transition team

GRADE 8 ADVENTURES AT ISSYK-KUL



Everyday Dogs, Boldly Drawn

This week in Art Studio ECA, we practiced seeing beauty in everyday life by drawing dogs we see on walks. I gave each student a circle and said, "This is the dog's head—you can keep the body just as simple." The students drew with bold, confident lines and added a great sense of humor. Their work was truly masterful!

-- Ms. Didi



ALL AMERICAS BBQ

We are excited to announce that the BIS All Americas BBQ will take place on June 19th, 2025, from 17:00 to 21:00. This event is a celebration for our wider community, featuring fun activities, live music, delicious food, ice cream, and fireworks!

If you are interested in creating a display table or activities to celebrate the unique features of any country or culture from the Americas, please [complete this form](#). We will add your country or culture to the postcards for stamp collections that children will use as they move around the event. We encourage all families with connections to North, South, or Central America to volunteer and share their culture with the school community.



- INCLUDING PERFORMANCES, LIVE MUSIC, CARNIVAL GAMES, FOOD AND FIREWORKS

THURSDAY, 19 - JUNE - 2025

FROM 17:00 TO 21:00

67 A BRONIROVANNAYA ST.



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

SCHOOL MENU

The lunch menu for June 9th – 13th is **Menu D**. Our [updated school menu](#) (including vegetarian option) approved by the Nutrition committee is available 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](#)

- 8 June, Sunday: High School Prom
- 11 June, Wednesday: Class of 2025 Reflection Dinner
- 12 June, Thursday: High School Graduation Ceremony
- 16 June, Monday: Graduations for Preschool 3, Grade 5, Grade 8
- 17 June, Tuesday: Primary School Educational Visits Day
- 18 June, Wednesday: Parent-Teacher Meetings
- 19 June, Thursday: Last Day of School /All Americas Barbecue
- 20 June, Friday: Teacher In-Service Day

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	PAMC President	papres@bis.kg ; pamc@bis.kg
Parents Association Secretary	Alina Seitalieva	pasec@bis.kg
Homeroom/Form Classes		
Preschool 1	Laura Meliou & Aizhan Zhamanakova	lmeliou@bis.kg ; azhamanakova@bis.kg
Preschool 2	Nuraida Asanbaeva & Zharkyn Oskonbaeva	nasanbaeva@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	Peiyang 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 Alymova	fspies@bis.kg ; nalymova@bis.kg
Grade 8	Ann Smirnova	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 2

This week in Preschool 2, we focused on the sense of hearing, and also enjoyed a field trip related to the sense of touch!

At the start of the week, the children learned that we use our ears to hear. They explored different musical instruments and noticed how each one sounds different, some were loud, others were soft. During circle time, we played a "Guess the Sound" game where they listened to animal sounds and guessed which animal made them. We also read "Polar Bear, Polar Bear, What Do You Hear?" by Eric Carle.

Midweek, we went on a field trip to Toi Art. The children had a great time working with clay, using their hands to create magnets shaped like animals, flowers, and toys. They explored the texture of the clay and painted their creations, connecting this activity to the sense of touch.

To end the week, we held our Student-Led Conference. The children proudly shared their learning and work from the semester with their families. It was a meaningful way to celebrate their progress!

Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week in Preschool 3, we took a giant leap into learning about **patterns in space**! The children had a blast brainstorming what they might see if they went to space. From stars and planets to the sun and moon, their imaginations soared. They were fascinated to discover that Earth is just one of **eight planets** in our solar system.

The highlight of the week was transforming our classroom into a mini universe! The children painted and decorated all eight planets, and together we created a vibrant solar system display. By the end of the week, our ceiling was full of colorful, hanging planets—each crafted with care by our little astronauts.

In **math**, we continued our journey with **ten frames**, using them to count objects and recognize numbers in fun and engaging ways. It's been wonderful to see how confident

the children have become in recognizing and building numbers up to 10.

In **phonics**, we focused on reviewing **Phase 2 letter sounds** and practiced identifying the beginning sounds of simple words. Our learners are developing solid foundations for early reading skills.

Our week concluded with the **Student-Led Conference**, and what a special event it was! It was heartwarming to see our students take pride in explaining their learning journey to their families. A big thank you to all the parents who attended and supported their child's growth.

We look forward to more exciting learning and joyful moments in the week ahead!

Ms. Bivo, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher

