



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 16 / 2025-26

12th December 2025

FINAL ANNIVERSARY SHOW REHEARSALS – SEE YOU TOMORROW!

The final rehearsals for our Anniversary Show are now complete, and everything is ready for a truly memorable performance! We look forward to celebrating this special occasion with you tomorrow!

If you can't attend in person, you can still enjoy the event online via [this live stream link](#) – Saturday, 14th December, from 16:00 to 18:30 (Bishkek time). For those attending the show in person, tickets are still available [online](#) or at the theatre entrance for 1,000 KGS.



IB AND NEASC ACCREDITATION EXTENDED TO 2030

Thanks to the great work of the whole BIS community in making BIS what it is, and your involvement in the Collaborative Learning Protocol (CLP) process, both NEASC and IB have extended our accreditation until the end of 2030.



International Baccalaureate
Baccalauréat International
Bachillerato Internacional

The Visitors reported that BIS is a welcoming and supportive learning community that values diversity, with contributions from all members. The school is commended for its achievements, deep engagement in the CLP process, and readiness to pursue strategic goals as it continues its transformative journey.

The [confirmation letter is here](#), and for those who prefer detail, [the full report is here](#), including recommendations for improvement.

David Grant, Head of School

MATHS OLYMPIAD FINALISTS ANNOUNCED

We are delighted to share the results of the German Maths Olympiad. Several of our students have qualified for the finals and will proudly represent BIS in Frankfurt, Germany, in April 2026.

We also extend our sincere appreciation to Ms. Genevieve and Ms. Branka for their invaluable guidance and support throughout the preparation process.

Mr. Alexander Vargas, Math Teacher

1. IZAK ROY BENSINYOR
2. AMIR YAMADA
3. AMAN JUMASHUKUROV
4. ALEXANDER GERRY
5. NILMIRA SAVRUK
6. WIKTOR FILA
7. SUVANI THAPA
8. ADAM IBRAIMOV
9. CHESS PETERSON



THIS WEEK IN EPIC: EXPLORING CELEBRATIONS, TIME, AND NATURE'S BOUNTY

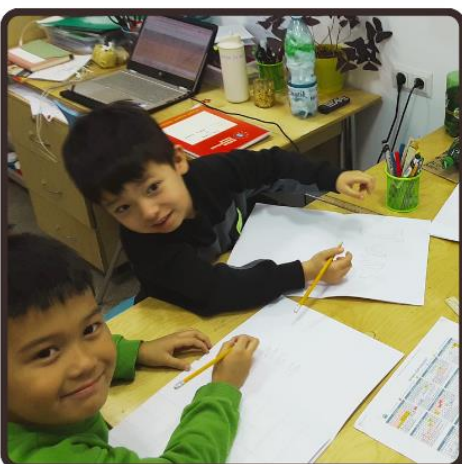


Incredible work from Grade 1 this week as they explore celebrations. Our Math group has refined their ruler work and concept of time by creating their own calendars from scratch. Next week they will fill in the celebration dates that are meaningful to them, their families, and their culture.

The UOI group wondered about the natural resources of the season. What seeds can we find during autumn and winter? And how can we use them practically beyond a food source? By creating our own textured paper. These students turned seasonal scarcity into a bounty!

Superb critical thinking all around from Grade 1.

Ms. Genevieve, EPIC Coordinator



Exploring Cultures, Traditions, and Holidays

Grade 1 learners explored a variety of cultures, traditions, and holidays from around the world.

Class parents visited to share how they celebrate the New



Year, including decorating trees, listening to festive music, making paper ornaments, writing to Ded Moroz, and baking cookies. Students also learned about Nowruz and enjoyed playing the “Jooluk salmay” game.

In addition, the class studied the history of Thanksgiving, discovering traditional foods and the importance of giving thanks. A parent shared a homemade apple pie made from a treasured family recipe, which students happily tasted.

We further explored Uyghur culture by learning simple Uyghur words and discovering how noodles are made for traditional Laghman.

We are grateful to our class parents for sharing their traditions and making our learning experience meaningful and enjoyable.

Grade 1 Team



TRADITIONAL TALES FROM AROUND THE WORLD

Grade 2 students had the chance to hear from more guest teachers, each sharing a traditional tale from their own culture.

These special sessions continued to inspire curiosity and excitement about stories from around the world.

Ms. Maria shared a **Mexican legend** about the creation of the world.



Ms. Genevieve told a **Canadian myth** about how **Raven** created the world and the first men.



Ms. Malika shared "The Rainbow Serpent," a traditional Aboriginal Australian creation tale that explains how the land and its features were formed.

Ms. Branka shared a Serbian folk tale which emphasizes that **bravery, sacrifice, and goodness** are rewarded.



Ms. Gulbara told the Kyrgyz legend of **Manas**.



Art Competition Winners

Congratulations to our talented artists! The Art Competition held in conjunction with the upcoming Pirates of the Curry Bean Anniversary show received wonderful entries from students across all grade levels. Here we proudly present the four winning students, along with three additional encouragement award recipients, celebrating their creativity and imagination around this year's pirate-themed production.

First Place
Isaac Jeong, Grade 5



Second Place
Dameli Ospanova, Grade 5



Third Place
Josiah McClellan, Grade 5



Fourth Place
Ramiz Sanzharbekov, Grade 6



Encouragement prizes

Maya Bouallaoui, Grade 4



Atai Ishenbekov, Grade 6



Kyungwon Cho, Grade 7



LIBRARY READING CHALLENGE



Our students recently took part in a fun library activity! Each student chose a new book they hadn't read before, enjoyed reading it, and then answered questions about the story.

After completing the quiz, students were excited to open a window on the Reward Board and receive a special prize.

Well done to all participants for their curiosity, effort, and enthusiasm!

FUN AND FRIENDLY BADMINTON COMPETITIONS IN GRADES 4 AND 5



From December 8 to 11, students in Grades 4 and 5 took part in badminton competitions within their classes. The games helped strengthen team spirit, build self-confidence, and show the students that sports can be both beneficial and fun.

Winners from each class were proudly awarded medals. All participants showed energy, courage, and great motivation. The atmosphere was truly sporty and friendly, making the event an exciting experience for everyone.

Ms. Diana, PE Teacher





Shops of Sunshine

Hot dog shops, plant shops, cake shops, and candy shops are having their grand openings! Our little future entrepreneurs are bringing their business visions to life. Children are passionately imagining their future roles in society as bosses. These little shops they created certainly ignite their imagination to create, innovate, and beautify their ideas.

Ms. Didi



CPR, BROCC AND KTI AWARDS



CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):
Zazuka (Preschool 1)
Wiktor (Grade 8)



KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Inquirers):
Alima (Grade 3)
Adam, Aliana, Tim (Grade 4)
Aidan, Chess, Marua, Salamat (Grade 5)
Nil Mira (Grade 6)
Safiia (Grade 7)



BROCC (Balanced, Risk-Takers, Open-Minded, Communicators):
Mikhail (Grade 3)
Sabina (Grade 4)



RESILIENT (The path may be difficult, but I will succeed):
Alexandra, Raiana (Grade 3)
Ayla (Grade 4)
Hisaki (Grade 8)

**JOIN THE ANNIVERSARY SHOW:
SUPPORT OUR WINTER BALL AND
BRING JOY TO CHILDREN THIS NEW
YEAR!**

Dear Parents and Guardians,

This Saturday is our BIS Anniversary Show! As part of the celebration, the Student Council will run a food sale to raise funds for the Winter Ball and for other events organised by Student Council. We kindly welcome any contributions such as homemade or store-bought food, snacks and desserts. Any support is greatly appreciated and will directly benefit our students.

If you would like to donate, please send a message to studentcouncil@bis.kg.

Thank you for supporting our BIS community!

Farhan, BIS Student Council President



Donations

FOR BAKE SALE
AT ANNIVERSARY SHOW

ON DECEMBER 13, 2025



IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO DONATE, PLEASE SEND A
MESSAGE TO STUDENTCOUNCIL@BIS.KG

Make Their New Year Sparkle— Your Coins Can Do Wonders!



Dear BIS Community,

We are pleased to announce a meaningful New Year initiative at our upcoming Anniversary Show! This year BIS is partnering with the **Bishkek International Women's Club** to support **32 children from the Sunterra Correctional Center for Children with Down Syndrome**.

Near the entrance, you'll find a New Year tree decorated with cards, each showing a child's wish. To participate, simply pick a card, read the wish, and scan the QR code to donate (minimum 1000 som, more is welcome).

Donations will be used to purchase and deliver the presents, giving our community a chance to bring joy, warmth, and inclusion to these children this holiday season.

Thank you in advance for your kindness, generosity, and support.

Kenzhen, Grade 11 Student

AI ASSISTANT FOR BIS POLICIES & HANDBOOKS

[AI Assistant for BIS Policies & Handbooks](#)
[Parents & Guardians Handbook](#)

[BIS Policies and Handbooks](#)
[Student Handbook](#)

LUNCH MENU (UPDATED)

The lunch menu for December 15th – 19th is **Menu D**. You can view the updated [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 – 2025/26 Calendar is [here](#)

- 13th December, Saturday: BIS Anniversary Show – Official School Day
- 16th December, Tuesday: PYP Student led Conferences
- 19th December, Friday: Last Day of First Semester / Ded Moroz
- 22nd December – 9th January: Winter break
- 5th January, Monday: BIS Alumni Reunion Dinner
- 7th January, Wednesday: Orthodox Christmas
- 12th January, Monday: Staff In-Service Training
- 13th January, Tuesday: First Day of Second Semester

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 2025/26 are given below:

Position	Name	Contact
BIS Reception	Albina / Meerim / Madina	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 Administration	Esentur Dildebekov	edildebekov@bis.kg
Admissions Officers	Gulsara Sheraly kyzy / Begimai Urmanbetova	admissions@bis.kg ; 0706 200 200
Community Liaison Officer	Taalaigul Zhunusova	tzhunusova@bis.kg
Community Projects Officer	Saikal Amanova	saikala@bis.kg
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	Nurbek Chagataev	nchagataev@bis.kg
Middle School Principal	Gulbara Akunova	gakunova@bis.kg
Primary School Principal	Elina Ignatova	eignatova@bis.kg
High School Academic Director, 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 Abdyraeva	cabdyraeva@bis.kg
Learning Diversity, Inclusion and Counselling (LDIC) Coordinator	Kyzjibek Tekenova	ktekenova@bis.kg
EPIC Coordinator	Genevieve Maser	gmaser@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, Ayana Akmatova & Saltanat Mamanova	lmeliou@bis.kg ; aakmatova@bis.kg ; smamanova@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	Altnai Isabekova & Kanykei Tursunalieva	aisabekova@bis.kg ; ktursunalieva@bis.kg
Grade 0 Yellow	Peiyang Lin & Begaiym Djumaeva	plin@bis.kg ; bdjumaeva@bis.kg
Grade 1 Blue	Nelia Mwanza & Nargiza Zhusupova	nmwanza@bis.kg ; nzhusupova@bis.kg
Grade 1 Yellow	Begimai Keneshbekova & Rabiia Erkulova	bkeneshbekova@bis.kg ; rerkulova@bis.kg
Grade 2 Blue	Morgan Chadderton & Datkayim Uralieva	mchadderton@bis.kg ; duralieva@bis.kg
Grade 2 Yellow	Oksana Chichilova & Aike Uralieva	ochichilova@bis.kg ; auralieva@bis.kg
Grade 3 Blue	Syeda Nayna Ahmed & Tilekbek Niazaliev	snaynaahmed@bis.kg ; tniazaliev@bis.kg
Grade 3 Yellow	Claudette Colinares & Altnai Kalieva	ccolinares@bis.kg ; alkalieva@bis.kg
Grade 4 Blue	Daniel Bilog & Eliza Saidalieva	dbilog@bis.kg ; esaidalieva@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	Matthew Vandewaal Valkanov & Anjela Kozlovskaja	mvalkanov@bis.kg ; akozlovskaja@bis.kg
Grade 8	Francois Spies & Nurzhamal Alymova	fspies@bis.kg ; nalymova@bis.kg
Grade 9	Sagida Satysheva & Alexander Vargas Mira & Nargiza Kydykova	ssatysheva@bis.kg ; avargas@bis.kg ; nkydykova@bis.kg
Grade 10	Yana Karpenko & Ahmed Hashem & Stephen Labanowich	yakarpenko@bis.kg ; ahashem@bis.kg ; slabanowich@bis.kg
Grade 11	Nazira Abakirova & Megan Bagdonas	nabakirova@bis.kg ; mbagdonas@bis.kg
Grade 12	Lane Spies & Kevin Snow	lspies@bis.kg ; ksnow@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](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

This week, we explored how ideas, feelings, and emotions can be shared through art. The children enjoyed discovering different **textures**—soft, rough, and smooth. They played a fun guessing game where they reached into a mystery bag and tried to identify the texture by touch. It was a simple activity, but it encouraged careful thinking and lots of giggles.

In **Math**, the children happily sorted colors, shapes, and cubes. They worked together, helped one another, and practiced being kind friends while learning important early-math skills.

Our **Art** time was extra special. We completed our longest project of the term—a beautiful holiday gift for our parents. The children painted, added dots, glued pom-poms, and carefully decorated their pine cones to create their very own Christmas trees. They were so proud of the process and the final result.

During **Music**, the children listened to the gentle sounds of the flute. Everyone took turns helping Miss Aziza play a small melody, which became a joyful highlight of the day.

It was a week full of creativity, cooperation, and happy discoveries. We can't wait to continue learning together!

Ms. Laura, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week in Preschool 2, we learned that we can express ourselves through storytelling.

Our little friends listened to different stories and watched a puppet show where the characters showed many feelings. The children enjoyed guessing how the puppet characters felt and why. Some of them also tried using the puppets to show their own little stories.

In art, the children made emotion masks using paints. They chose colors that matched how their character might feel.

We had a lovely week exploring stories and feelings together.

Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week in Preschool 3, we explored the exciting idea that stories can be told in many different ways. The children enjoyed discovering picture stories, puppets, shadow puppets, and even action stories. They were especially enthusiastic about creating their own picture stories using their drawings, which they proudly shared with their friends.

We also had a wonderful time making paper puppets and shadow puppets. The children used their

imaginations to bring their characters to life, telling creative and expressive stories during circle time. It was truly an amazing week filled with creativity, confidence building, and joyful learning.

As we continue preparing for our upcoming Anniversary Show, we hope to see you all on December 13 at the Philharmonic Hall, where our little ones will showcase their dance moves. Thank you for your continued support and partnership!

Ms. Bivo, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher

