Bishkek International School

VOICES

Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 10 / 2026-27 30th October 2026

UN DAY AT BIS 2026

BIS celebrated UN Day with a vibrant programme highlighting the diversity, cultures, and shared values of our international community. Students and staff came together to learn more about different countries and cultures, celebrating what makes each community unique while recognising the connections that bring us together.



UNITED NATIONS DAY



The day was filled with colourful cultural activities and a lively parade, giving students an opportunity to represent different countries and celebrate the diversity of our school community. UN Day is a special occasion at BIS that reflects our commitment to international mindedness, respect, and understanding, reminding us that although we come from different backgrounds, we are all part of one global community.









BIS Snapshot: UN Day
























BIS Snapshot: UN Day



















NARRATIVE WRITING ACROSS GRADES



Grade 7 students visited their Grade 4 peers for a collaborative activity focused on Narrative Writing.

Working together, students explored how to develop creative stories, build engaging plots, and bring their ideas to life through writing.





The session provided a wonderful opportunity for older and younger students to share ideas, learn from one another, and develop their writing skills through collaboration.







THIS WEEK IN EPIC:
MATHS CHALLENGES AND WINTER PREPARATIONS











Various accomplishments across EPIC this week, from grade 2 setting math challenges to grade 5 mastering ratios on the first day. Under the right circumstances, math can delight and surprise.

Moving into the winter season, the botanical gardens are preparing for sleep. We have planted our seeds and baby trees. In the meantime, students engineered their winter tent and tree swing. They are not quite ready for winter camping but it's a start!

Ms. Genevieve, EPIC Coordinator







A GREAT WEEK FOR BASKETBALL!

Our U19 team celebrated two great wins in friendly games, including one game together with our U15 team. Congratulations to all our players!

A big thank you to everyone who came to support our teams! We look forward to seeing you all after the autumn break. See you on the basketball court!

Ms. Diana, PE Teacher







AISB FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

BIS took part in the AISB Football Tournament with four teams: U12 Boys, U15 Boys, U19 Boys and U15 Girls.

The U12 and U15 Boys both finished third, while the U15 Girls finished fourth. The U19 Boys finished fifth out of seven teams after an excellent tournament. BIS also won the Overall Sportsmanship Trophy, an important achievement that recognises our students' fair play, respect and team spirit.

All four teams performed better than expected, especially considering that BIS does not have its own football field. It is a shame that only one team will travel to Almaty.

A big thank you to Ms. Stella, Ms. Diana, Ms. Anna and Mr. Ellis for their hard work and support. Well done to all our players!

Mr. Zeljko, Athletics Director





Grade 6 research articles about people in Kyrgyzstan who have changed the world



1



Ayana Myrzabekova is a 24 year old environmental engineer. She noticed a problem: due to the toxins, receipts can't be recycled with ordinary paper. That's when Ayana and her team attempted to remove the toxins from the receipts in the lab and it worked! And that's how the "Paper2U" project started. The project continues to spread: they have made special bins for receipts and provide resources to inspire young people. Ayana is incredibly inspiring,because she proves that everything is possible and if we try hard we can do it .

Elima A, 6B

2



A wave of protest has been spreading around Kyrgyzstan following the Bishkek Girl Activists. This is a group of girls aging from 13-18 who are raising awareness about the patriarchy in Kyrgyzstan by spraying graffiti on walls as murals for women's rights. They have been hosting multi-day educational camps with the help of UNICEF and the OSCE. Their work is truly groundbreaking as they have been making a huge change in our society, leading to more and more women appearing in the political field. They are still fighting for women's rights. Undoubtedly they will continue making a change for the better.

Ayanna I, 6B

3



33 year old Aisuluu Tynybekova is a world-class wrestler who inspires other people. It's astonishing how she inspired people by telling them that they can be anyone that they really want to be. Aisuluu once said, "There were moments when I told myself: 'I am not bothering anyone, I'm just doing what I like.'" Aisuluu Tynybekova has changed the world in a way that no one expected: she changed sports and gender expectations, doing so from a corner of the world that global sports analysts completely underestimated.

Nathan R, 6B

4



Jalalbek Akmatov is a 25 year old from Naryn City in Kyrgyzstan. One day he saw that the roads were dirty and therefore dangerous. However, nobody wanted to clean the road because of Coronavirus, so he decided to clean the road with his seven friends. It was a fight for their life! Nobody died after the road was cleaned. Jalalbek decided to work at UNICEF and he is producing food for poor children today. Jalalbek Akmatov is inspiring for me because he fought for others' lives and produced food for poor kids.

Niel P, 6B

5



Have you heard of the feminist group New Rhythm from Osh? It was created in 2014 and in 2016 they started a public campaign that was designed to inform and educate our society about women's rights and problems facing them. Their group is still working today to solve issues. They go to schools and other public places to educate people in Osh. It's inspiring because it gives a sense that anyone can make a change, even in a very small country like Kyrgyzstan.

Alisha A, 6B

6



Ratbu Satorova is an English teacher from who worked as an educator for more than 30 years. One of her acts was to build a preschool. She also helped educate preschool teachers so they could work with kids who have disabilities and kids who have disabilities. Ratbu Satorova is very kind, inspiring and generous. She helped families and kids in her community. She is a very inspiring person because she keeps on expanding and working even when things get hard for her.

Dariy Li, 6B

7



Zhyrgalbek July Erlan is a 16 year old boy from Naiman who had a dream to achieve gender equality and access to clean water. Erlan was trained and supported by the UN. They have organized a series to raise awareness of how women don't always have access to clean water and sanitation. To advance gender equality and promote safe and peaceful communities, Erlan has helped in 7 different towns. Now girls play football, boys help clean the classes after school and Naiman people have access to clean water.

Alima A, 6B

8



Tilek Mamutov is a 41 year old man born in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. He became the first Kyrgyz engineer at Google. He added the Kyrgyz language to Google Translate. Also, he launched balloons in the air to improve the internet in Kyrgyzstan for a company called Google X (part of Google). This plays a crucial role for people who use the internet daily. He is inspiring because he used the internet to make Kyrgyz people's lives easier.

Jonathan B, 6B

Grade 6 research articles about people in Kyrgyzstan who have changed the world



9



Have you ever thought about what it is like to be blind? Most blind people go to special schools and have an education that fits their disability. Not Gulnaz Juzbaeva. Born blind in Issyk-kul, Kyrgyzstan, Gulnaz insisted to her worried parents that she could go to a sighted school. She never gave up and ended up graduating from several sighted universities! She went on to found the Kyrgyz Federation for the Blind, helping blind people live normal lives and even compete in the legendary Paralympics. Her undying dedication left a lasting impact on not only Kyrgyzstan, but the whole world.

Oliver E, 6B

10



Salizhan Shakirovich Sharipov was born in 1964 in Uzgen in the Osh region. He was the first and only astronaut in Kyrgyzstan. He has conducted two space walks, won many awards and advanced science. Today he is retired but many people across Kyrgyzstan still remember him as a hero. He is very inspiring because he showed us that even if you have much smaller chances you shouldn't give up: even though many astronauts come from bigger and better-known countries, he still achieved his dream of going into space.

Isaac J, 6B

11



Asel Sartbaeva is a 36-year old female scientist who made a giant impact on the world's medicine. In high school, her science teacher motivated and inspired her to do science. Her impressive research saved millions of lives by lowering the prices of vaccinations. She helped to invent nano-coating, which helps to store vaccines without a fridge. Asel Sartbaeva is such an inspiring person because she never gave up during a six-year journey of failing and getting rejected. Asel Sartbaeva finally made a big, positive impact on the world by saving millions of lives around the world.

Josiah M, 6B

12



Salizhan Sharipov was an astronaut who lived and worked in Kyrgyzstan. Born in Uzbekistan 1964, he flew to space when he was 33 years old. Salizhan Sharipov was the very first person in Kyrgyzstan to go to space. He has conquered 2 space walks and has spent 201 days in space.

Leyla P, 6Y

13



Aidana Otorbaeva is a 31 year old Kyrgyz woman known for opening a football club for girls and boys. She opened the football club using her own experience. She is also a professional teqball player and is very good at it (she is 11th place in the world and 2nd in Central Asia). She is inspiring because she has worked hard to do something to make boys and girls happy.

Baitemir I, 6Y

14



Ermek Shabykeev was born in Kara-Talaa and is 32 years old. He dreamt of bringing ecotourism to his country. He was worried about the condition of Kara-Talaa, so he decided to ask villagers to protect it. The villagers managed to get permission in December 2019 to build a community reserve. After getting all the documents, Shabykeev started cleaning and fencing a part of land so the animals wouldn't get hurt by the electric fence. Together, they got support from lots of people. The most inspiring thing he did was helping his hometown and protecting the environment.

Maggie S, 6Y

15



Begim Zhanuzakova grew up in a small village called Kochkor in Naryn, Kyrgyzstan which was deeply connected to nature, so she was so aware that climate change is an everyday reality rather than a distant risk. So when she grew up she started spreading environmental education awareness and publicly speaking up about climate change. Begim Zhanuzakova is so inspiring because she actually cares about nature and speaks up about climate change, so people can learn from her and get inspired.

Aidan T, 6Y

16



Kurmanjan Datka was a famous leader in the 1800s who protected her people from a big war. When Russia took over her land in 1876, she stopped the fighting so her people would not get hurt. People called her the "Queen of the Alay". She chose talking and peace instead of war, which saved many lives.

Andrei, 6Y

NEW FACES AT BIS: MR. ELLIS



My name is Ellis Goldney and I am delighted to introduce myself to the BIS community. From the very first moment I walked into the building, I was met with warmth, kindness and laughter.

I have the privilege of being an English teacher in the Middle School and High School. For me, helping students to develop their language skills is an important and delightful responsibility. As I say to my students, language is the code that we think in. If we can improve our language skills, we can improve the way we think and even the way we feel.

I am from Bournemouth, a seaside town in the south of the United Kingdom. Therefore, the only downside to moving to Bishkek is not living by the ocean (which anyone who is from the seaside will understand).

I have four great pleasures in life. Firstly, reading as many novels as I possibly can. Secondly, going to watch my beloved Poole Town Football Club. Thirdly and fourthly, my cats, Weasel and Gleb.

Over the last ten years, I have had roles in schools in the United Kingdom and Romania, and it is an honour to take up a post at BIS.

Mr. Ellis, Head of English Department

GRADE 8 EXPLORES KYRGYZSTAN'S TURKIC ERA HERITAGE



This week, Grade 8 students embarked on an exciting journey into the Turkic Era. As part of their Host Country Studies unit, students explored Burana Tower, a historical monument associated with the ancient city of Balasagun, and the archaeological remains of Suyab, an important medieval city along the Silk Road.

These educational visits helped students connect their classroom learning with real historical sites and deepen their understanding of Kyrgyzstan's rich cultural heritage.

The trip ended with lunch, giving students an opportunity to relax and share their experiences after a day of historical exploration.







CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):
Zhaisanbek (Grade 6), **Guanghe** (Grade 7)

BROC (Balanced, Risk-Takers, Open-Minded, Communicators):
Suvani (Grade 8)

Resilient (The path may be difficult, but I will succeed):
Aibike (Grade 7), **Kairui** (Grade 8)

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR STUDENTS ON THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS IN THE NEO MATHEMATICS AND SCIENCE OLYMPIAD!

Natural Sciences (PYP)

Adil Raimzhanov	Silver Medal
Aruna Ababakirova	Bronze Medal
Emir Yamada	Bronze Medal
Lincoln Hakimov	Bronze Medal
Nika Rogalskaya	Honourable Mention
Maya Kratskikh	Honourable Mention

Math Olympiad (MYP)

Amir Yamada	Gold Medal
Niel Park	Bronze Medal
Alisha Azimova	Bronze Medal
Guanghe Liang	Honourable Mention
Kasen Askarov	Honourable Mention
Ramil Shakirov	Honourable Mention
Roksana Nuritdinova	Honourable Mention

Math Olympiad (PYP)

Adil Raimzhanov	Bronze Medal
Emir Yamada	Honourable Mention
Maya Kratskikh	Honourable Mention
Lincoln Hakimov	Honourable Mention
Aruna Ababakirova	Honourable Mention
Nika Rogalskaya	Certificate of Participation
Elias Hashem	Certificate of Participation
Daria Kovalenko	Certificate of Participation
Sayan Kutanov	Certificate of Participation

Natural Sciences (MYP)

Kasen Askarov	Silver Medal
Guanghe Liang	Bronze Medal
Amir Yamada	Bronze Medal
Rayan Ababakirov	Bronze Medal

FALL FESTIVAL
















FALL FESTIVAL






Fall Festival


















Fall Festival

TICKETS FOR THE ANNIVERSARY SHOW - ANNIE JR - SATURDAY 28TH NOVEMBER

Dear BIS Community

The BIS Anniversary Show, featuring the musical Annie JR, will be on Saturday, 28 November, at the Kyrgyz National Drama Theatre, from 16:00 to 18:30. Tickets are only available from the BIS external reception, by emailing ticket@bis.kg with your preferred row and seat number(s) according to this seating plan which shows available seats.

Reservations are confirmed following your donation of at least 1,000 KGS per ticket to 'Act for Community', the BIS student volunteer organisation, which will use donations to support one of the rural boarding schools for orphans in Naryn. The QR code for donations is below.

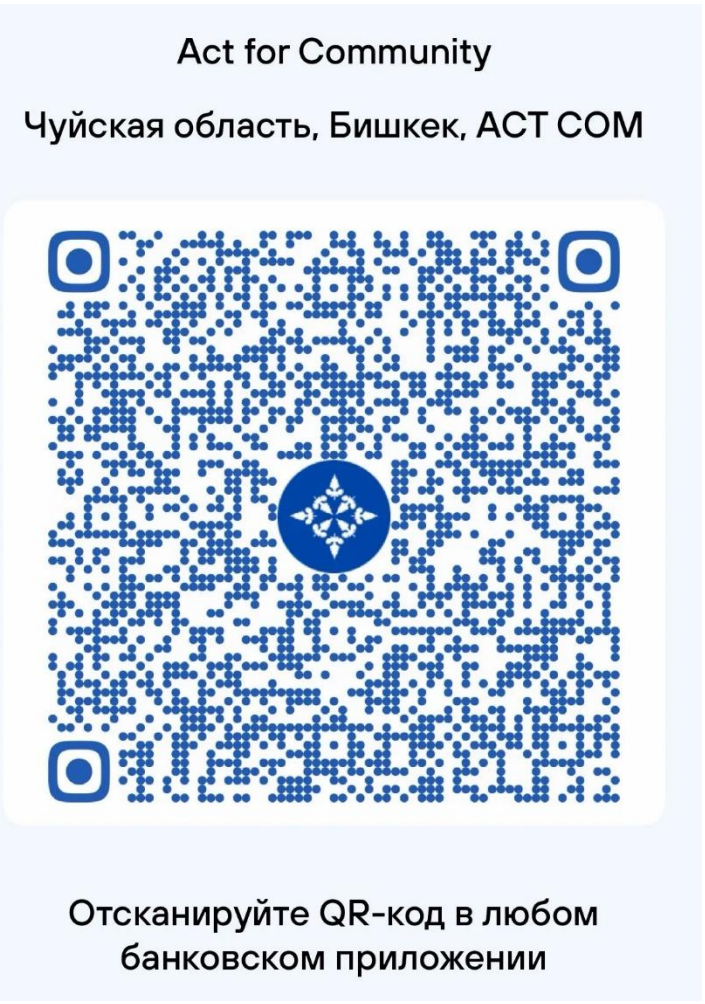
Make sure you email ticket@bis.kg giving your preferred row and seat number(s) according to this seating plan at the same time as you make your donation. We will respond within 24 hours (working

days) confirming your seat selection and tickets ready for collection from BIS external reception. If you prefer to make your donation in cash, instead of using the QR code, you may donate in cash when you collect your tickets.

Please note that:

- All Preschool to Grade 8 students already have seats reserved, so you do not have to reserve any seats for them;
- Preschool parents who are only staying for the first half performances (including preschool) will be given tickets to sit with their children until the intermission - but must email ticket@bis.kg to confirm attendance and collect their ticket;
- Grade 9-12 students do not have to attend if they are not performing or backstage, but can reserve a free seat if they volunteer to help 'front of house' - they will be sent a separate sign-up form, so you do not have to reserve any seats for them.





FUTURE CAREERS DAY



06 NOVEMBER, ON FRIDAY

Dress up as YOUR dream career to earn 10 house points and bring your career aspirations to life!

THE ACTUAL: Future Careers Day will be announced in advanced! Stay tuned!

Hello Autumn

Sweater weather

Dress Up

on Friday
13th November

Sweater weather is better weather.

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for November 2nd – 6th is **Menu B**. 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 – 2026/27 Calendar is here

- 4th November, Wednesday: Dinosaur Day – no screen day
- 6th November, Friday: Future Careers Day
- 5-7 November, Thursday-Saturday: CAFA Football at Tien Shan – Almaty
- 7-8 November, Saturday-Sunday: Days of History & Memory of Ancestors
- 21st November, Saturday: BIS Annual Debate Tournament
- 28th November, Saturday: Anniversary Show in the Kyrgyz Drama Theatre
- 15th December, Tuesday: PYP Student led Conferences
- 18th December, Friday: Last Day of First Semester / Ded Moroz
- 21st December – 8th January: Winter 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 and our Reception will forward your email to the right person. Homeroom and Form Teachers for 2026/27 are given below:

Position	Name	Contact
BIS Reception	Aidana / Gulaiym / Aimira	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	Madina Matieva	mmatieva@bis.kg
Community Projects Officer	Jyldyz Sarieva	jsarieva@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 / Deputy Head of School	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
Middle School Academic Coordinator	Claire Berger	cberger@bis.kg
Primary School Academic Coordinator	Daniel Bilog	dbilog@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	Fred Huston	gbchair@bis.kg
Governing Board Secretary	Alina Seitalieva	gbsec@bis.kg
Parents Association President	Seetha Malik	papres@bis.kg; pamc@bis.kg
Parents Association Secretary	Secretary	pasec@bis.kg
Homeroom/Form Classes		
Preschool 1	Laura Meloliu, Zhamal Amanturova & Saltanat Mamanova	lmeloliu@bis.kg; zamanturova@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	Altynai Isabekova & Kanykei Tursunalieva	aisabekova@bis.kg; ktursunalieva@bis.kg
Grade 0 Yellow	Syeda Nayna Ahmed & Begaiym Djumaeva	snaynaahmed@bis.kg; bdjumaeva@bis.kg
Grade 1 Blue	Begimai Keneshbekova & Datkayim Uralieva	bkeneshbekova@bis.kg; duralieva@bis.kg
Grade 1 Yellow	Abegail Delos Reyes & Rabiia Erkulova	areyes@bis.kg; rerkulova@bis.kg
Grade 2 Blue	Oksana Chichilova & Aike Uralieva	ochichilova@bis.kg; auralieva@bis.kg
Grade 2 Yellow	Maria Van Eeden & Erkeaiym Karypbekova	mvaneeden@bis.kg; ekarypbekova@bis.kg
Grade 3 Blue	Niiru Singh & Aigerim Zhumabaeva	nsingh@bis.kg; azhumabayeva@bis.kg
Grade 3 Yellow	Claudette Colinares & Nargiza Zhusupova	ccolinares@bis.kg; nzhusupova@bis.kg
Grade 4 Blue	Rona Butler & Eliza Saidalieva	rbutler@bis.kg; esaidalieva@bis.kg
Grade 4 Yellow	Christine Fernandez & Aizirek Dzhakypbekova	cfernandez@bis.kg; adzhakypbekova@bis.kg
Grade 5 Blue	Morgan Chadderton & Zharkynai Ilebaeva	mchadderton@bis.kg; zhilebaeva@bis.kg
Grade 5 Yellow	Natalie Small & Sezim Tologonova	nsmall@bis.kg; stologonova@bis.kg
Grade 6	Anjela Kozlovskaia & Marc Garreta	akozlovskaia@bis.kg; mgarreta@bis.kg
Grade 7	Branka Kovacevic & Erkeayim Zhekshenalieva & Alexander Vargas	bkovacevic@bis.kg; avargas@bis.kg; zhekshenalieva@bis.kg
Grade 8	Matthew Vandewaal Valkanov & Nurzhamal Alymova	mvalkanov@bis.kg; nalymova@bis.kg
Grade 9	Maria Rojas & Sagida Satysheva & Francois Spies	mrojas@bis.kg; ssatysheva@bis.kg; fspies@bis.kg
Grade 10	Yana Karpenko & Ahmed Hashem	yakarpenko@bis.kg; ahashem@bis.kg
Grade 11	Toon Cavens & Nazira Abakirova	tcavens@bis.kg; nabakirova@bis.kg
Grade 12	Alexander Sheyerman & Lane Spies	asheyerman@bis.kg; lspies@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

Bishkek International School

Preschool Discoveries

Preschool Newsletter No: 10 / 2026-27 **30th October 2026**

PRESCHOOL 1

We had a lovely, colourful week in Preschool 1! As we started our new unit, we began looking at our daily routines and the familiar activities that make up our school day.

Our classroom also got a little autumn makeover! The children enjoyed decorating it with beautiful autumn leaves in shades of yellow, orange and red.

We also had lots of fun at our Autumn Festival! The children took part in different games, including a pumpkin relay race and spooky ghost bowling. They also decorated their own pumpkins, adding funny eyes and, of course, lots and lots of glitter!

It was a wonderful week filled with fun, creativity and autumn magic!

Ms. Laura, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher

















PRESCHOOL 2

This week, we returned to our Unit of Inquiry, "How We Organize Ourselves," and its central idea: "People in a school have jobs to help us learn and stay safe."

We revisited the school helpers from before the break: the chef, cook, cleaner, and security guard. We also began thinking about other helpers, such as teachers, doctors and nurses, and librarians.

We set up a doctor's office in our Dramatic Play area, where the children played all week. They loved pretending to be doctors and nurses, and some were the patients. The "doctors" took very good care of them!

We visited the real doctor's office, where our school nurse, Ms. Zhypara, showed us her tools. The children explored a stethoscope, bandages, tongue depressors, and a thermometer, checked each other's temperatures, and learned how these tools help the nurse care for others. Ms. Zhypara also gave them bandages, which they loved!

In Art, the children painted over stethoscope-shaped tape. When we removed the tape, the stethoscope appeared like magic!

On Friday, we celebrated our Autumn Festival! The children came in costumes and enjoyed games and activities with their friends. It was a happy end to our week.

Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher












PRESCHOOL 3

What a wonderful start to Term 2 we have had in Preschool 3!

This week, we began our second Unit of Inquiry, **How We Organize Ourselves**, with the central idea: *"Neighbourhoods have different places that help people live, work, and play."* We introduced the idea of a neighbourhood by exploring pictures of familiar places and inviting the children to share places they see around them. They then enjoyed building their own neighbourhoods using loose parts, blocks, and LEGO.

In **Phonics**, we revised our previous sounds: **s, a, t, p**. In **Math**, we explored measuring by height, comparing tall and short objects and building towers using LEGO.

We also had a fantastic time celebrating the **BIS Fall Festival!** Our classroom was decorated with spooky spider webs, bats, cats, and pumpkins. The children looked amazing in their favourite character costumes, from superheroes and princesses to witches and even Michael Jackson! We enjoyed festive games, pumpkin painting, and decorating.

What a fun-filled week! We look forward to more adventures next week!

Ms. Bivo, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher















