Bishkek International School

VOICES

Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 11 / 2026-27 6th November 2026

DINOSAUR DAY

Dinosaur Day brought excitement and adventure to BIS on Wednesday! Students from Preschool to Grade 12 enjoyed a variety of activities, with plenty of opportunities for outdoor learning, exploration, creativity, and teamwork. As part of this no-screen day, students stepped away from their devices to engage in hands-on experiences, take on fun challenges, and enjoy learning beyond the classroom.













DINOSAUR DAY

















FROM FARM TO OUR TABLE: GRADE 0'S DAIRY FARM ADVENTURE!











As part of our current Unit of Inquiry, How We Organise Ourselves, Grade 0 students have been exploring how food travels from farms to our tables. This week, we had a wonderful opportunity to extend our learning beyond the classroom with a visit to a dairy farm outside Bishkek! A big thank you to one of our Grade 0 families for such a warm welcome and for making this experience possible!

During our visit, children met special dairy cows brought from Europe and learned how they are cared for, what they eat, and where they live. Students were introduced to a milking machine, and they even saw how milk is filtered and cleaned before being turned into dairy products.



After exploring the farm, we enjoyed a well-deserved snack break and tasted delicious Turkish ayran made right there on the farm! One highlight of the trip was meeting the adorable calves, especially the youngest, which was only two days old! But our learning didn't stop there! To extend this hands-on experience, during their Kyrgyz lessons, students made kurut, a traditional Kyrgyz snack, using süzmö produced at the very same farm we had visited. In just one week, our young learners followed the journey of dairy products from the cows on the farm to the food on their own tables.

Grade 0 Team

CAMP, PLAY AND EXPLORE



Grade 2 and Grade 3 ELA students took their learning outdoors at Atatürk Park. As part of our unit, How We Organise Ourselves, they worked in teams to set up tents, play team games, and search for camping items on a scavenger hunt. Each camping challenge gave students a chance to share responsibilities and help one another.

PYP ELA team

My favorite activities were eating, playing with friends, and taking photos. The funniest moment was finding pictures for the scavenger hunt. The hardest part was finding rocks and putting up a tent. Next time, I want to sleep there and roast marshmallows, not just eat them.

~Aruuzat, Grade 3

I loved playing tag, and I liked setting up the tent.

~Kirill, Grade 3

I learned how to set up a tent. I loved working in teams.

~Baktynur, Grade 2

I liked walking around and finding new things. Many sticks and rocks.

~Rodion, Grade 3

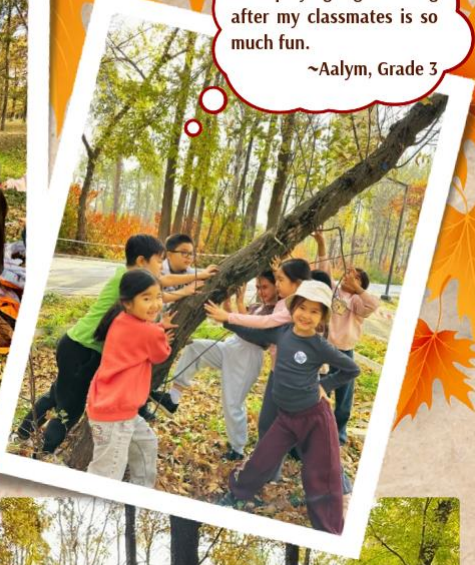
We worked hard and helped each other. I found a bottle for my team in a scavenger hunt.

~Emilia, Grade 2

Setting up the tent was really exciting. I like playing team games.

~Madiyar, Grade 3





I like playing tag. Running after my classmates is so much fun.

~Aalym, Grade 3

I learned that it is hard to set up a tent. I loved playing a "Hi Ha Ho" game. I helped my team to find a cup in a game scavenger hunt.

~Wakaba, Grade 2





I really liked to play team games with my friends. I am proud of myself because I did not give up when it was hard.

~Zere, Grade 2



I learned a new thing, like putting up a tent. I enjoyed all activities, especially playing tag, as it was fun. The next time, I would like to sleep there.

~Akmal, Grade 3

I like being in nature because it was so beautiful there. I enjoyed playing with my friends and eating marshmallows.

~Tair, Grade 2





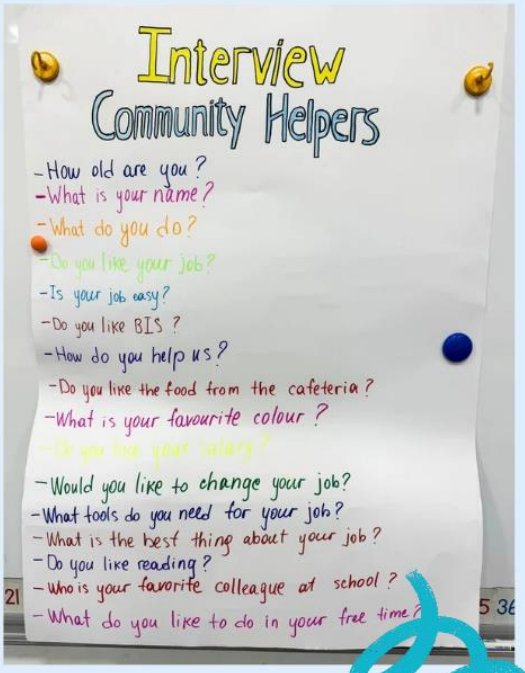




GRADE 1 EXPLORES JOBS AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN OUR SCHOOL

As part of our unit of inquiry, **How We Organize Ourselves**, **Grade 1 Blue** students have been exploring the different jobs, roles, and responsibilities that help our school community. This week, we were happy to welcome three special visitors in our class: Doctor Asel, Chef Duishen, and Dr. Grant.

Before the visits, students prepared their own questions and enjoyed finding out more about each visitor's role. Dr. Asel introduced us to some of the medical tools she uses to care for students and shared how much study and training are needed to become a doctor. Chef Duishen showed us how to create a beautiful tulip from a cucumber using simple kitchen tools. He also shared stories about his experience working in cafés in Portugal and France. Dr. Grant shared his daily responsibilities, his childhood dream of becoming an engineer, and what he enjoys most about leading the school. Students were also curious to learn about his special routine of wearing the same style of shirt and trousers to work every day!









These visits helped students better understand how different roles, skills, and responsibilities contribute to our school community. We would like to thank all our visitors for their time and for sharing their experiences with us!

Ms. Begimai and Ms. Datkayim, Grade 1 Blue Team







GRADE 4 EXPLORE OAK PARK AND THE MUSEUM

Grade 4 students enjoyed an educational trip to Oak Park and the Gapar Aitiev Kyrgyz National Museum of Fine Arts. The visit provided an opportunity to connect classroom learning with the world around them and explore how people, communities and resources are interconnected.

At the museum, students developed their conceptual thinking as they explored artworks through the lens of their inquiry into Economic Interdependence. They examined the stories behind the images, identifying resources and products, exploring different occupations, and considering the relationships between producers, consumers and the distribution of goods.

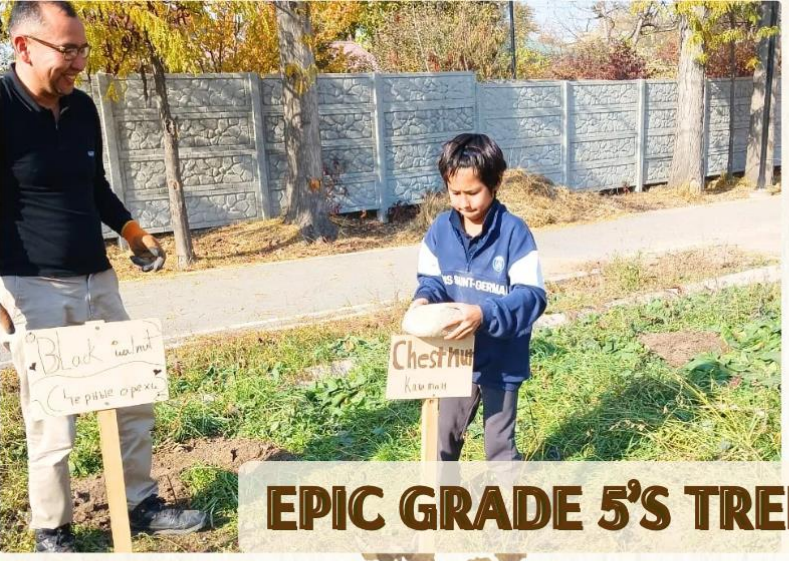
Grade 4 Team











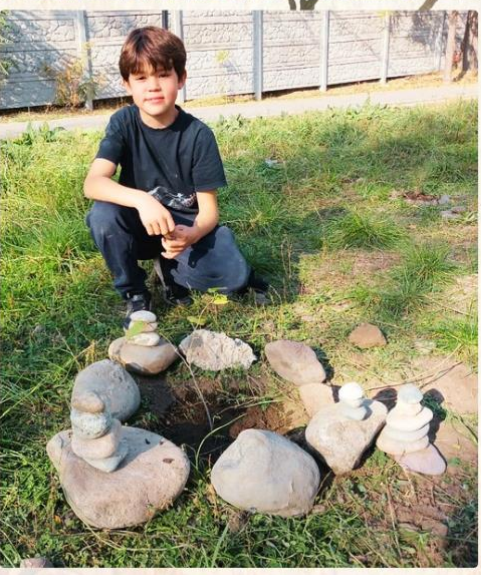


EPIC GRADE 5'S TREE-PLANTING PROJECT





The botanical garden plot has been personalized by grade 5. Each student adopted a hazelnut tree and will care for it in the years to come. They will discover that trees, like kids, thrive with love, attention and a bit of personal style.









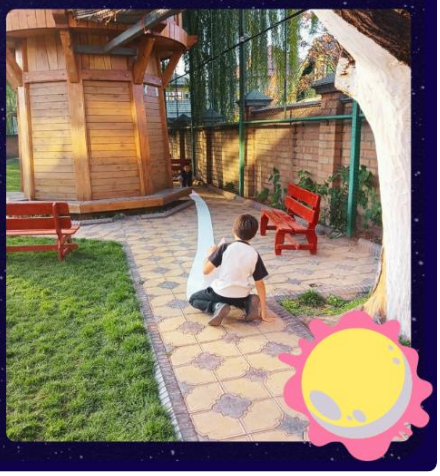
EPIC ASTRONOMERS

EPIC Astronomers realized this week that they have been sold a lie!! Students looked through the entire astronomy section in the library and found that planets are always depicted close together at regular intervals from the sun. Impossible! The solar system is vast, and they discovered through a paper towel activity that the outer planets are billions of kilometers further away. What accounts for this? They decided that if the solar system were to be accurately portrayed in book form, the book would need to be several meters wide. We also had a minute of silence to mourn the demotion of Pluto.

Keep your chin up, Pluto.

Ms. Genevieve, EPIC Coordinator









NEW FACES AT BIS: MS. ABEGAIL



Hello, everyone! My name is Abegail Abis Delos Reyes. I am originally from the Philippines and have nearly 20 years of experience in education, having taught in the Philippines and the United States. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education from Philippine Normal University and a Master of Arts in Education, major in Special Education, from the University of Perpetual Help System Dalta. I also completed Healthcare Assistant studies at Gateway Community College in Ohio and am a proud alumna of the Southeast Asian Ministers of Education Organization SEAMEO. Throughout my career, I have worked in government and international schools, including six years in the United States as an Exceptional Student Education and English Language Learners (ESE-ELL) teacher. These experiences have strengthened my commitment to inclusive education, differentiated instruction, and recognizing the diverse strengths and learning needs of every child.

Teaching is my passion, and I find joy in helping children discover their potential, build confidence, and overcome challenges. I believe every child deserves a safe, supportive, and inclusive environment where they feel valued and encouraged to succeed. Outside the classroom, I am a plant lover who enjoys walking in Bishkek's beautiful parks and green spaces, especially after school and on weekends.

I am grateful to be part of the BIS community and look forward to supporting the students' academic and personal growth. My teaching philosophy is guided by one simple belief: **Every Learner Deserves a Chance Every Day.** Regardless of their background, abilities, or challenges, every child deserves equal opportunities to learn, grow, and succeed. I strive to provide the guidance, resources, and encouragement each learner needs to reach their potential and confidently say, "I can do it!"

Ms. Abegail, Grade 1 Yellow Homeroom Teacher

BIS Snapshot: Future Careers Dress-Up Day





















Creative Workshop ECA























CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

CPR (Caring, Principled, Reflective):
Paul (Grade 11)

KTI (Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Inquirers):
Artur (Grade 9)

BROC (Balanced, Risk-Takers, Open-Minded, Communicators):
Ilona (Grade 1)
Ayim, Nestan, Kezhen, Ariella, Raiana, Sulim (Grade 12)

Resilient (The path may be difficult, but I will succeed):
Amira, Yasmina (Grade 10)

MINDFUL AND CREATIVE BREAKS









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.

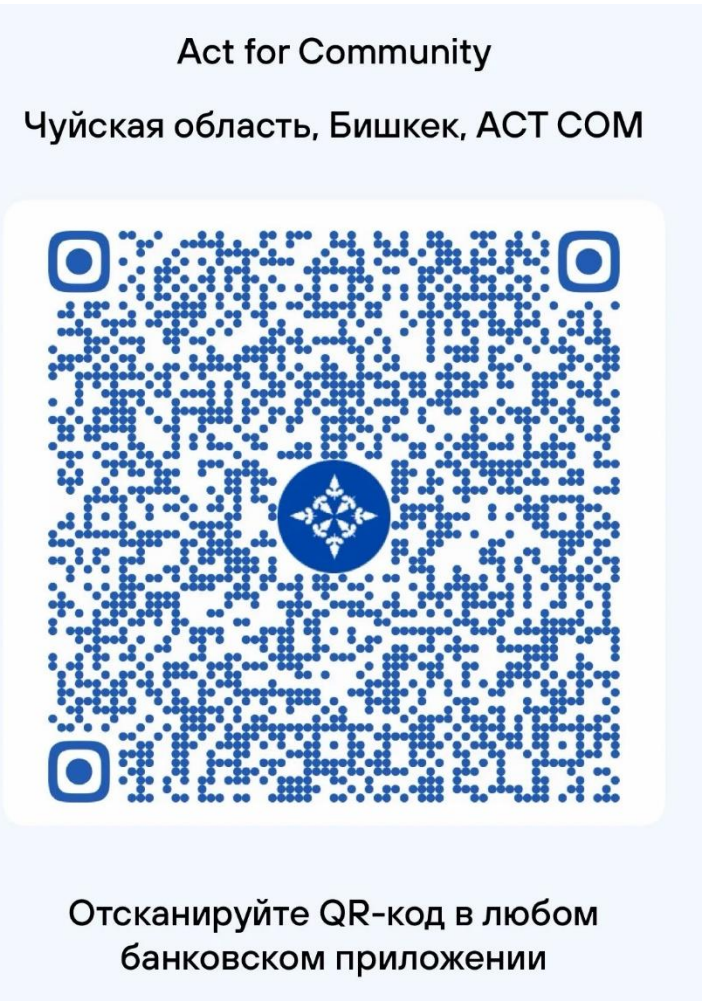
Make sure you email ticket@bis.kg giving your preferred row and seat number(s) according to this seating plan at the same time as you make your donation. We will respond within 24 hours (working

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.





BIS ADVISORY COUNCIL MEETING: A STEP TOWARDS STRONGER COOPERATION

On 5 November 2026, Bishkek International School held its 40th Advisory Council meeting, chaired by Nicolas Faye, Ambassador of France to the Kyrgyz Republic. During the meeting, David Grant, Head of School, presented key developments at BIS from May to November 2026. Members also discussed Governing Board activities and held elections for Governing Board representatives. One of the main topics was the proposed Memorandum of Understanding between BIS and the Ministry of Education of the Kyrgyz Republic. Participants discussed the initiative and prepared a preliminary draft of the Memorandum, marking an important first step towards strengthening cooperation between the School and the Ministry.

Alina Seitalieva, Governance and Event Officer







LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for November 9th – 13th 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 – 2026/27 Calendar is here

- 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: 11 / 2026-27 **6th November 2026**

PRESCHOOL 1

It has been another busy and enjoyable week in Preschool 1! We continued exploring our daily routines, focusing on the steps we follow throughout the day. We talked about what comes first, next and then – from having our lessons and enjoying snack time to washing our hands before meals.

During circle time, the children enjoyed learning a new song, Fly Like a Butterfly, which became a fun warm-up activity!

On Thursday, some very fluffy friends with rather long hair came to visit us! The children had great fun giving them haircuts while practising their scissor skills. In maths, we continued exploring shapes and began noticing simple patterns around us.

Friday brought a little autumn magic! We gathered colourful leaves on a large piece of fabric, and everyone held an edge. Together, we lifted and moved the fabric to create waves, sending the leaves dancing and flying through the air. The children were delighted to watch the leaves fall, move and fly again!

We also had a special reason to celebrate – Azat's birthday! The children enjoyed decorating birthday cards with colourful stickers and sharing their best wishes.

It was a wonderful week of learning through play, exploring patterns and discovering how things happen in a sequence – first, next and then!

Ms. Laura, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher











PRESCHOOL 2

This week, we continued our Unit of Inquiry, "How We Organize Ourselves," exploring how people in our school help us learn and stay safe.

On Monday, our librarian showed us how she checks in books using a barcode scanner. Every child had a turn to scan a book.

On Tuesday, our security guard, Mr. Felix, visited our classroom and showed us the tools he uses to keep our school safe. The walkie-talkie and glowing traffic wand were particular favorites!

On Wednesday, our principal, Dr. Grant, joined us for Dinosaur Day and read *Scaredy Mouse by Alan McDonald*. The children enjoyed the story and shared lots of laughs.

In Math, we counted tools used by school helpers and matched each group to the correct number using clothespins. In Art, we created library pictures with books held between two hands.

Through these activities, the children are learning about the different jobs and responsibilities in our school community.

To finish the week, we celebrated Future Careers Day! The children dressed up as what they would like to be when they grow up. They were so excited about their costumes that they kept them on throughout the day!

Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher












PRESCHOOL 3

What a fun, eventful and meaningful week we had in Preschool 3!

This week, we explored what a neighbourhood is and discovered the different places we can find in one. The children enjoyed naming and drawing familiar places they often visit in their own neighbourhoods. They also had lots of fun creating our very own neighbourhood using paper and cardboard, adding places they know and recognise.

We also celebrated our second **Dinosaur Day** at school! It was a no-internet day designed to bring creativity and learning beyond screens. The children enjoyed surprise visits from dinosaurs and a fun dinosaur-themed art lesson. It was such a creative and exciting day!

On Friday, we celebrated **Future Careers**, and it was wonderful to see the children dressed up as their dream jobs.

What a fantastic week! Next week, we look forward to exploring the exciting world of **Community Helpers**!

Ms. Bivo, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher











