



**Bishkek
International
School**

VoICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 5 / 2026-27

18th September 2026

ASIA DAY FESTIVAL, SATURDAY, 19TH SEPTEMBER

Our Asia Day Festival is **this Saturday 19th September** and everyone is welcome to celebrate with us. We have interesting games for children and beautiful performances of Asian culture. Join us and learn more about Asia and our school!

Students will earn points for their houses if they come in the national costume of any country in Asia.

Date: 19th September, 2026

Time: 10:00-13:00

Place: BIS, 67A, Bronirovannaya St.

You are invited!

Asia Day Festival



Travel around Asia with BIS Asia Day Festival celebrations where you can encounter Asian food, performances, music and much more.

MYP ADVENTURE DAYS

Skills, Service and Teamwork at Issyk-Kul

This year, MYP students spent four exciting days at Ulan Camp on the shores of Issyk-Kul during Taigan Adventure Days. The main focus of the trip was Skills & Service, giving students the opportunity to develop practical skills, contribute to the local community, and strengthen their teamwork.

SERVICE IN ACTION

Each grade took part in a different service activity.

Grade 6 planted 10 trees in Ulan Camp. Through this activity, they learned about caring for the environment and making a positive contribution to the place they were visiting.



Grade 7 travelled to the nearby village of Toru-Aygyr, where students distributed handmade cinema tickets to local residents and invited them to join a community Cinema Night organised by grades 7 and 8.

Grade 8 prepared boorsok and iced tea for the visitors attending Cinema Night. Students worked together to prepare and serve the food, sharing a taste of Kyrgyz hospitality with the community.

LEARNING NEW SKILLS

Skills development was another important part of the trip. Grade 8 students completed three hours of First Aid training led by Red Cross trainers. Students learned practical first-aid skills and how to respond in different emergency situations.

Grades 6 and 7 took part in water safety sessions with certified lifeguards, learning important safety rules and how to behave responsibly around water.

Of course, Taigan Adventure Days was not only about service and learning. Students also had plenty of time to relax, play volleyball and board games, swim, take part in team activities, and spend time with their friends and teachers.



"I think everything was fun and excellent, especially Cinema Night before it was turned off accidentally, the horror game and beach time. I liked the team activities and organising the Cinema Night."

— Guanghe, Grade 7

"Ulan Camp was, I think, the best trip from all three years in MYP."

— Roksana, Grade 8



"The best part of Taigan Adventure Days was playing board games and volleyball and swimming."

— Ugnius, Grade 7



Students returned with new practical skills, stronger connections with their peers and plenty of stories to share.

**Ms. Gulbara, Middle School Principal & Ms. Claire,
Middle School Academic Coordinator**



**MYP
ADVENTURE
DAYS**

EPIC's Green Garden Guardians



EPIC's young gardeners spent the day pulling weeds on our botanical plot. By the end of the day, the plot looked cleaner, healthier, and ready for soil.

Our expert botanist, Ormon, helped the children determine a weed from a productive plant, and the students learned of weeds' clever adaptations, such as parasitism. We also discussed why some seeds and bulbs are planted in autumn. They hibernate like bears!



Next week, 12 tonnes of soil will be delivered and the children will plan the ideal garden for maximum growth and ecological balance. The priority is to revive long-forgotten native Kyrgyz species, including wild almonds, local apples, and junipers. Well done to our green garden guardians!

Ms. Genevieve, EPIC Coordinator

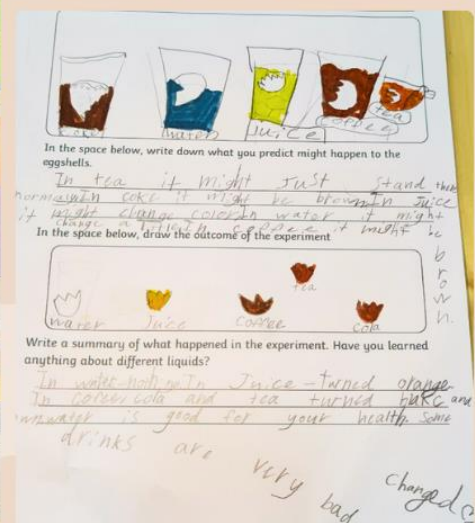


Grade 2 Investigates How Drinks Affect Our Teeth



Grade 2 students continue learning about healthy choices and how they impact our well-being. This week, students explored how different drinks that we consume daily can affect our teeth if we do not brush our teeth.

For the experiment, we used water, coffee, cola, juice, and tea. We placed eggshells in each drink and left them for two days to observe the changes, making a connection to the impact on the human teeth. Before starting the experiment, students made their predictions. Two days later, they observed and recorded the changes to the eggshells.



Many students concluded that water is a healthy choice because the eggshell placed in water had no changes. The eggshells placed in the other drinks changed colour, with some turning brown or black, and some developed an unpleasant smell. Students discussed how the results of the experiment can help us think about the drinks we choose to consume and how we can take care of our teeth.

CPR, BROC AND KTI AWARDS

CPR (CARING, PRINCIPLED, REFLECTIVE):

Ian, Leo, Romina, Simeon (Grade 1)
Chyngyz (Grade 10)
Sultan (Grade 11)

KTI (KNOWLEDGEABLE, THINKERS, INQUIRERS):

Abir (Grade 0)
Amy-Jane, Elena (Grade 1)
Astrid, Marius (Grade 2)
Ayn, Rimma, Seytek (Grade 9)

BROC (BALANCED, RISK-TAKERS, OPEN-MINDED, COMMUNICATORS):

Aijan, Zahar (Grade 0)
Darina, David, Lev (Grade 1)
Kezhen (Grade 12)
Mr. Hashem

RESILIENT (THE PATH MAY BE DIFFICULT, BUT I WILL SUCCEED):

Genrih, Khan (Grade 1)
Dayana (Grade 2)





A Warm Welcome for New BIS Parents



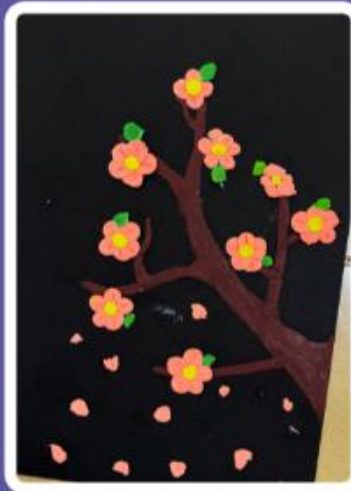
On Friday, 11 September, the Parent Association Management Committee (PAMC) welcomed new BIS parents to a relaxed and informal Coffee Morning at Zerno.

The event was a great opportunity for new families to meet members of the PAMC and BIS staff, share their experiences, and talk about how they and their children are settling into the new school year. Parents also learned more about the PAMC and the different ways they can get involved in the BIS community.



Creative

Hands at Work



WE ARE EXCITED TO ANNOUNCE OUR 2026–27 HOUSE LEADERS

PHOENIXES

HOUSE LEADERS:

Mr. Daniel, Ms. Morgan, Ms. Datkaiym

CAPTAIN:

Leon (Grade 6)

VICE-CAPTAINS:

Wiktor (Grade 9), Stanislava (Grade 5)



PIRANHAS

HOUSE LEADERS:

Ms. Deniz, Mr. Geoffrey, Ms. Mira

CAPTAIN

Alan (Grade 12)

VICE-CAPTAINS:

Abbas (Grade 5), Genevieve (Grade 1)



SNOW LEOPARDS

HOUSE LEADERS:

Mr. Matthew, Mr. Bolotbek, Ms. Erkeayim

CAPTAIN:

Emirlan (Grade 8)

VICE-CAPTAIN:

Shuyang (Grade 7)



NEW FACES AT BIS: MR. IVAN

Hi! I'm Ivan Ninenko, and I've just joined Bishkek International School as Strategic Lead for Education Systems Innovation. My career has come in several stages. The most recent began in 2022, when I moved from Russia to Kyrgyzstan, where I played a vital role in launching Teach For Kyrgyzstan and created the Master's programme "Pedagogy in Times of Change" at the International University of Central Asia. An earlier turning point was 2016, when I returned to Russia after a couple of years as a visiting scholar and instructor at Miami University in Ohio. Back in Russia I joined a remarkable international initiative, Global Education Futures, and in 2017 I co-authored the report "Future Skills: How to Thrive in the Complex New World." In it we outlined the trends shaping the years ahead and asked how education should change in a world where cognitive automation systems — what we now call Artificial Intelligence — can do most routine cognitive tasks. Nine years and several jobs later, I am happy to join the BIS community to work on exactly that question together.

I love technology, but I love being outdoors just as much. I share that passion with my wife Yulia, and together we have explored many mountain gorges of Kyrgyzstan — Kol Suu left the strongest impression by far. Our young son Matvey cannot go too far yet, but he has already been to some of the mountains around Bishkek; the picture was taken at 2,100 metres at Kashka Suu. I am also a keen player of games, both live action and board games. I have already made one game for my students, and I plan to introduce many more this year.



Mr. Ivan, Strategic Lead for Education Systems Innovation

DINOSAUR DAY - TUESDAY SEPT 22ND

On Tuesday 22nd, we have our first 'Dinosaur Day' to help break our tech addictions and to move towards our goal to spend more time in the natural environment than we spend looking at screens. On 'Dinosaur Days', students and staff may not use any electronic screens or overhead projector screens for any reason, except in serious emergency situations. Students should not bring their laptops to school with them, as they will not be used. Staff phones must be turned off all day. Smartwatches etc are not allowed. Security staff can watch the security video camera screens, but **all other staff and students are banned from any screen for the day**. Parents and guardians, please note that any electronic messages to the school will not be seen by staff until the following day. **If a parent needs to urgently communicate with us, please phone the reception** on 0312 21 44 07 or for buses 0312 21 44 05. For Primary and Preschool children, **we encourage families to make Tuesday entirely screen free, from waking up in the morning until sleep at night**.



David Grant, Head of School



versus

EPIC DINOSAUR BRAIN DAY

**For
everyone!**

Register with
Ms Nazira or
Ms Genevieve

Choose your competition category:

1. Rubik's cube
2. Jigsaw puzzle (2 person team!)
3. Hopscotch (классики)
4. Jumprope (скакалка)
5. Tangrams (2-person team!)

September 22nd!

BIS SPORTS DAY 2026



BIS Sports Day will take place on **Wednesday, September 30**, at Alga Sports Complex, bringing together students from Grades 4–12 for a full day of athletics, competition, and House spirit.

Our students will represent BIS, while also competing for their Houses - Snow Leopards, Phoenixes, and Piranhas. They will take part in 60 m, 100 m, 400 m, 800 m, and relay races, with qualifying heats, semifinals, and finals throughout the day.

This year, there will be a few changes to make the event even more enjoyable for students. Most importantly, the sprint races will take place on the side of the track directly in front of the student stands, bringing the action closer to the supporters and creating an even better atmosphere.

We look forward to seeing the Snow Leopards, Phoenixes, and Piranhas give their best on the track and cheer each other on from the stands!

Zeljko Jovetic, Athletics Director

**Wednesday
September 30**

**10:00 AM
to 4:00 PM**

Alga Sports Complex



BRING YOUR PARENTS TO SCHOOL

Dear Parents and Guardians of Preschool and Primary School Students,

We have our PYP 'Bring Your Parents to School' days from September 24th to October 2nd, when **parents join open mini-lessons together with their children** and have a brief taste of life in the classroom.

- **Grade 5** - Thursday, 24th September - 7:45 - 9:30
- **Grade 4** - Friday, 25th September - 7:45 - 9:30
- **Grade 3** - Monday, 28th September - 7:45 - 9:30
- **Grade 2** - Tuesday, 29th September - 7:45 - 9:30
- **Grade 1** - Wednesday, 30th September - 7:45 - 9:30
- **Grade 0** - Thursday, 1st October - 7:45 - 9:30
- **All Preschool** - Friday, 2nd October - 14:30 - 15:45

**SIGN UP HERE TO RESERVE
YOUR PLACE AS AN OFFICIAL
GUEST OF YOUR CHILD FOR
THEIR SPECIAL INVITE DAY.**

First, parents and guardians will have coffee/snacks and a presentation/ discussion about the Primary Years Programme.

Next, parents and guardians will join their child's class to observe short sessions in the Homeroom, Library, Art, ICT, PE, Music or Dance and reflect on what they've seen in the classes.

Scheduled time for **Primary School** is **07:45 - 09:30**.

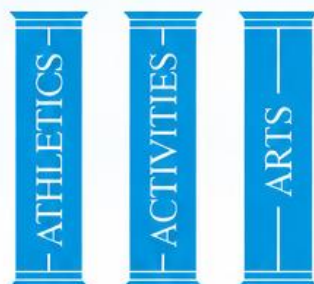
Preschool open lessons are scheduled for the afternoon at **14:30-15:45**. Children can happily go home with their parents and guardians after the event without any tears.

Please note that we need to limit attendance **to one parent or guardian per child** to make sure we have enough space in the classrooms to fit all the participants comfortably.

Elina Ignatova, Primary School Principal



HOSTED BY BIS



CAFA

Central Asia Federation of Athletics,
Activities and Arts

TOGETHER THROUGH SPORT



X-Country

KARAGACH PARK

OCTOBER 9 AND 10, 2026

DAY 1

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9



ALL RUNNERS
4000 m

COED RELAYS

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 9



U15 – 4 x 1000 m
U19 – 4 x 1000 m

DAY 2

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 10



U19 – 5000 m
U15 – 3000 m

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for September 21st – 25th is **Menu A**. 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](#)

- 19th September, Saturday: Asia Day Festival
- 22nd September, Tuesday: Dinosaur Day – no screen day
- 24th September – 2nd October: PYP ‘Bring your Parents to School’ days
- 25-26 September, Friday-Saturday: CAFA Conference at BIS ‘Architects of Tomorrow: Shaping Future-Ready Students’
- 30th September, Wednesday: Sports Day – Grades 4-12
- 8th October, Thursday: All Parents Meeting – Parents Association
- 9-10 October, Friday-Saturday: CAFA Cross Country – Karagach Roche
- 14th October, Wednesday: Mental Health Awareness Day
- 15th October, Thursday: Parent Teacher Meetings (PTMs)
- 16th October, Friday: UN Day at BIS
- 16-17 October, Friday-Saturday: AISB Football Tournament at UWIS
- 19-26 October: Autumn (Fall) 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
MYP Coordinator	Claire Berger	cberger@bis.kg
PYP Coordinator	Daniel Bilog	dbilog@bis.kg
National Curriculum Coordinator	Chynara Abdyaeva	cabdyaeva@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 Tursunaliyeva	aisabekova@bis.kg ; ktursunaliyeva@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 & Altynai Kalieva	ccolinares@bis.kg ; nzhusupova@bis.kg ; alkalieva@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 ; adzjakypbekova@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 Kozlovskaja & Marc Garreta	akozlovskaja@bis.kg ; mgarreta@bis.kg
Grade 7	Branka Kovacevic & Erkeayim Zhekshenaliyeva & Alexander Vargas	bkovacevic@bis.kg ; zhekshenaliyeva@bis.kg ; avargas@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](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)



**Bishkek
International
School**

Preschool Discoveries

Preschool Newsletter No: 5 / 2026-27

18th September 2026

PRESCHOOL 1

This week, we continued exploring our “Who We Are” unit with a focus on “Taking Care of My Body.” Our children are learning simple ways to keep their bodies safe and healthy.

In class, we created our own little faces by pasting eyes, a nose, and a mouth. We also enjoyed reading the story *Spot Goes to School* and talking about school, routines, and the things we do together each day.

During PE, we practiced throwing and catching a ball and worked on our balance by walking and standing

on blocks. The children enjoyed moving their bodies and trying new challenges.

We are also becoming more familiar with our daily routine of washing our hands with soap, especially before meals and after play.

Alongside our learning, there has been plenty of playtime, fresh air, and opportunities to explore and enjoy being together.

Ms. Laura, Preschool 1 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 2

This week in Preschool 2, we continued talking about how families take care of each other, and we started connecting that to our own classroom, how we can help and care for each other here too.

At circle time, we talked about the different ways families show care: helping, comforting, feeding, and just spending time together.

Then we looked for ways to do the same at school. In our Dramatic Play area, the children made food and tea for each other and helped tidy up afterwards. We talked about how helping, being gentle, and taking care of others are all ways we show we care.

The best part of the week was making cupcakes! Our friends used their "helping hands" to pour and mix, and they did a great job taking turns with each step.

In Math, we kept practicing counting from 1 to 5 with songs and hands-on activities. In Kyrgyz class, the children sang the Finger Family song in Kyrgyz.

In Art, they made "Helping Hands" artwork with their handprints, which tied in nicely with everything we've been learning about caring and helping.

A lovely week of caring, helping, and working together, both at home and here in our classroom.

Ms. Nuraida, Preschool 2 Homeroom Teacher



PRESCHOOL 3

This week in Preschool 3, we had a wonderful time learning about feelings, family, and friends. The children explored different emotions and shared how different situations make them feel. They talked about feeling sad when they miss their family, happy when they receive a new toy, and angry when someone hurts them or takes something from them. It was amazing to see how well the children understand their feelings and confidently share their ideas with the class.

We were also happy to receive a special surprise visit

from our School Director, Dr. Grant, who read to us his favorite story, The 'Scaredy Mouse'. We really enjoyed listening to the story, and it left us wondering: Would we rather be the big brave cat (who lost) or the scaredy mouse (who won)?

The children also presented their family photos and talked about the love they receive from their families. In Math, we practised counting to five and sorting by size and colour. In Phonics, we focused on the /a/ sound.

It was an amazing week in Preschool 3, and we look forward to more adventures ahead!

Ms. Bivo, Preschool 3 Homeroom Teacher

