



**Bishkek
International
School**

VOICES



Newsletter for BIS Parents and Friends. No: 39 / 2016-17

16 June 2017

NATURE AND POETRY

Since the warm weather has been gracing us lately, Primary 6 took advantage of a beautiful June day to go to Ala-Archa National Park. Primary 6 has been studying poetry in their final Unit of Inquiry. In order to further explore the concepts of imagery, onomatopoeia, and haiku, the students hiked into the mountains, did a mindfulness practice, and wrote a bit of their own poetry about nature.

As these students transition from primary school to MYP, the hike also provided a great chance for bonding. The group enjoyed morning snack and lunch amidst the amazing views offered by the national park. Furthermore, the trip provided lessons in leadership. Students learned to stick together and encourage each other through a pretty challenging hike!

Watch for Primary 6 poetry volumes to arrive in the library toward the end of the year!

Mr. Ryan, Primary 6 Form Teacher



MS. MADELINE'S READING COMPETITION

As you may remember from an earlier edition of Voices, Ms. Madeline's English B classes have been participating in a reading competition for the past 10 weeks. Each week, students had a goal of reading 100 or more pages of fiction or non-fiction in English. These books spanned from the Tom Gates series, a playfully illustrated MYP 1 favorite, to Shogun, a 1,008-page tome about 17th century Japan that was tackled by an IGCSE 1 student in just two weeks.

The classes gathered weekly to discuss the books they were reading, make recommendations to others, and chart their progress. Students who reached 1000 pages within the 10 weeks received books brought back from the United States by Ms. Madeline, and the student with the largest number of pages in each class at the end of the competition had the privilege of choosing what food Ms. Madeline would bring to the class's reading celebration.



Ms. Madeline is proud to announce the winners of the competition:

MYP 2 - Bogdan Timoshenko and Bakai Ergeshev, tied at 790 pages

MYP 2 - Aisha Kuban, with 1,319 pages

IGCSE 1 - Nursultan Abdymomunov, with with 1,651 pages

Honorable Mentions - Joe Imai (1,204 pages), Ran Imai 1,209 pages, Ouyi Feng with 1,357 pages.

Whether lounging at the beach, suffering through a boring plane ride, or taking a "staycation" at home, summer break is a great time to read for pleasure. Keep a stack of books (or a Kindle!) on hand and you can travel whenever and wherever you want!

Ms. Madeline, English Teacher



DODGE BALL

Dodge, dip, duck, dive, and dodge. These are the 5 D's of dodge ball, and as the year winds down and our athletic competitions come to an end, our hard-working Sports training team celebrated Coach Alex's last practice with a few games of dodge ball.

Normally, our sports training program focuses on developing athletic ability across sports. All athletes (or athletes-to-be) are invited to work on endurance, strength, and speed through various drills and workouts - from distance running to push-ups to T-tests to planks. The dedication our athletes showed throughout the year led to BIS's most successful year in athletics yet. Our Boys Varsity team won silver at the Central Asian Cross Country Classic in Almaty, Boys JV soccer and basketball team each won sportsmanship awards at major tournaments, Boys basketball took silver at an international competition in Almaty, and recently, our cross country team had several runners' podium at the Bishkek Fun Run.

BIS is very excited to announce the arrival of our new Athletics Director, Jimmy Grant, who has big plans to expand the sports programs offered at the school and provide more opportunity for our students to benefit from physical activity.

Mr. Ryan and Mr. Alex, Cross Country Coaches



MEETING MS. CARMEN

Preschool 2 students had the chance to meet Ms. Carmen this week, who will be their teacher for next year in preschool 3! Our students sent Ms. Carmen a list of questions, such as: 'What is your favorite color?', 'How are you coming to Bishkek?', 'Will you have ears?', 'What food do you like?', And most importantly, 'Will you bring presents!?'

Ms. Carmen is currently in South Africa after finishing the school year in Korea, where she has been for the last two years. This week she sent a video response to the students and answered all of their questions. It was a great opportunity for the students to get excited for next year and not have an unfamiliar face for the first day of school. We will continue to do these Skype and/or video responses over the next week. BIS' transition team has done a great job preparing for next year including working on ways to say goodbye to our departing students and teacher.



PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCES

Please note that the last Parent-Teacher conferences of the year will be Thursday, June 22nd. You can sign-up for a meeting time by clicking, [here](#).

LOOKING FORWARD TO SEEING YOU
AT THE

ALL AMERICAS BBQ

THURSDAY JUNE 29TH
GATES OPEN @ 5PM
FIREWORKS @ 9PM

Live Music Performances, Food, Carnival Games,
Prizes and Fireworks



Bishkek
International
School

5:10pm Student Band & Primary
School Performances
6:00pm Speeches & Awards
6:15pm Carnival & Food

FEATURING MUSIC BY : SALT PEANUTS, FANDANGO & LESSON PLANS

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **Thursday 22nd June: Parent-Teacher Meetings**
- Monday 26th June- Friday 30th June: International Friendship Week
- Thursday 29th June: Graduation/ All Americas Barbeque
- Friday 30th June: Last day of School!

More information about all of these events will be sent to you later, or see <http://www.bis.kg>

LUNCH MENU

The lunch menu for June 19– June 23 is here: [Menu](#)

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.

KEEP IN TOUCH

If you have anything you want to discuss or suggestions for the school, please contact your 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.



The whole week preschool 1 had fun conducting various science experiments. We learned about volcanoes and set up an experiment to see how and why the eruption of lava and ash happen. We also discovered the three states of matter: solid, liquid and gas. To better understand the concept, we compared three balloons filled up with gas, liquid and solid. We found out that gas was very light, invisible and difficult to break, whereas liquid was heavier than gas and easy to squeeze. Finally, the balloon filled with a solid was the heaviest of all and didn't change its form.

This week we were lucky to visit the science lab and really enjoyed the way MYP1 presented science equipment's to us! We discovered how to take temperature with the thermometer, how to view small items through a microscope, grind substances with pestle and many other things that little scientists do in their labs!

When young children are asked to sort objects such as leaves or shells they usually use the most obvious attributes of colors, shape and size to categorize them. When children play, they use sorting and classifying skills as they observe similarities and differences of color and shape, make comparisons and organize this information into piles. This seemingly simple process is preparing Preschool 2 children to apply these skills in making graphs or looking for a book in the library. Children put in their favorite food coloring into salt and enjoyed the sensory experience. We also mixed the primary colors into the salt



to make new colors and children focused on making scribbles, letters and numbers in it. We experimented with fruits, its colors and taste.

We asked children how many colors an apple had? They replied "one". We cut the apple and children were amazed to see the flesh inside was white and the pips were brown. Their immediate reaction was "No, it has three colors, red, white and brown!" Then we experimented with color and taste. Children tasted that a red apple will probably be sweet, a green apple will probably be sour. We did this with other fruits as well. Children learned that colors have taste!

This week preschool 3 continued learning about the world of mini beasts. We discovered the meaning of life cycle, children explained how humans change, and compared it with the butterfly life cycle. We also learned the frog life cycle and learned the tadpole song to go with it. We thought about where the minibeasts live, and learned the different names for their houses, like hive, colony, shell or leaf. We tried to be spiders and weaved our own gigantic spider web in the classroom, then we discussed how difficult it was to walk on the spider web and consider how were spiders able to do it so easily. Children now know a bigger range of minibeasts and can also say what is their initial phonic sound.

Enjoy your weekend,
The Preschool Team

