May 2014 Newsletter

Book Week

This year's Book Week was extremely successful, with students enjoying all the week's activities.

On Monday, a few of the Primary classes participated in a pyjama day where children did some bed-time reading.

On Monday and Wednesday, Max Mako (7T) enjoyed ringing the bell to herald the 'Drop Everything and Read' session, in which all students and staff took time out to read a book of their choice for a short while.

During the Book Fair on Tuesday, all students had the opportunity to buy a range of fiction and non-fiction texts from Usbourne Books. These will be delivered to school within the next 2 weeks. Please keep the blue form which students were given with their book orders.

I would like to thank all parents for helping pupils to prepare a costume for the book week celebrations on Wednesday. There were so many creative costumes - it was wonderful to see such an array.

Also, thank you to pupils and parents who brought in pictures of them reading in unusual places – on top of fire engines, underwater and in shopping trolleys were just some of the most unusual places.









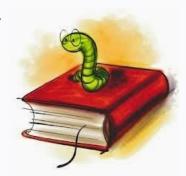


Finally, please come in to reception to take a look at:

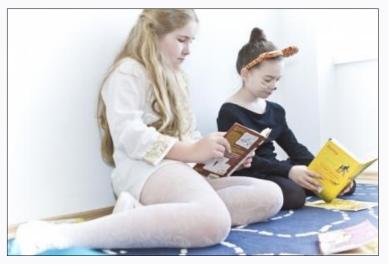
- our book tree, where pupils have written about some of their favourite books and why they enjoy reading;
- the alternative book covers entries there are some outstanding designs;
- the Primary School's shared story about the nine lives of a cat called Meow.

(Claire Smith, Teacher of English Language and Literature)















Upcoming events

21.5.2014 | International Day

It is the official UN World Day of Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development as well. The aim of this day here at CIS is to bring different cultures together, learn more about their customs, traditions, history, crafts, cuisine... all in good stead ©.



4.6.2014 16:00 | Summer variations



We will welcome the summer with another exhibition of our students' artwork accompanied by various musical performances by our students. We would like the event with a small reception to take place outside in our garden, so pray for good weather! ©

13.6.2014 | Sport Day





2.6.-20.6.2014 | Cambridge Tests

End-of-the-year testing by both class and subject teachers will be spread across three weeks and finish on Friday, June 30th. The class teachers will let you know all the details about particular tests for your year group.



23.6.-27.6.2014 | Last school week

Last school week before the end of the school year. It's the time of class trips, returning books, cleaning and last goodbyes before the summer holidays.

More information about upcoming events to follow.



Easter workshops

On April 11th, the last day before the Easter holidays, the whole school was soaked with Easter spirit. The day started with an Assembly where the children were divided into groups for the Easter egg hunt. They scoured every corner of the school to find all the eggs cleverly hidden by Ms Nicki and our teachers. Jasmine Atkins from Year 5H created a beautiful poster to support our school staff running team and was awarded the Star of the week certificate for it ©.

After that the children enjoyed a number of activities and workshops our teachers had prepared for them such as face painting by one of our mothers Mrs Kmecová, or making of cotton wool bunnies, bunny ears and Easter baskets. Overall, it was a very nice day and all the children were enthusiastic

about the activities as well as their holiday plans.

Enjoy some photos from the day:









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Kindergarten

April brought us lots of exciting activities and even more - great spring weather just suitable for revitalisation of our garden. The biggest event of the month was our "gardening workshop" when we could plant, seed, sow but also clean up the mess left from the winter. We all took a part in all the activities and can enjoy plenty of flowers, herbs, fruits and veggies all over our terrace now.

In April we also took a chance to visit TV JOJ in connection to our mass media topic. We checked the backstage of the most famous Slovak soap opera studios, we saw the TV news studio and also had fun in the Quiz competition "Páli vám to" ©. Of course, we can't forget about our "Easter bunny hunt", when we searched for chocolate eggs hidden by Easter bunny. We even experienced proper Slovak "šibačka" to stay healthy, strong and beautiful all over the next year ©.

(Helena Molnárová, Head of Kindergarten)







Your children in action

Year 2S students know that map-reading is an important skill to have, but we also can have fun with maps too. We explored different types of maps and are proud to watch our map skills grow. We enjoyed making playground globes that give us a visual reference that can be checked over and over again as we walk through the different places we visit in real life \odot .

(Katarína Schultzová, Year 2S Class Teacher)





Year 2G have been learning about position and movement. We learnt to give and follow instructions and the different terms to use; forwards, backwards, quarter turn, half turn, full turn, clockwise and anticlockwise. The children loved drawing maps and writing instructions in pairs using all the different terms we learnt.

2G have also been enjoying our Fun Friday's! We had pyjama day, costume day, crazy hair day and mask day. The children enjoyed taking part and it made Friday's even more fun!

2G have been learning about Space and made moon craters from playdough and pen lids and moons from card, soil, rocks and glit-

ter. It got very messy but was lots of fun!

(Nicki Gray, Year 2G Class Teacher)







Year 3M have been writing stories. It took us a few weeks, but the result was worth the effort. Children planned the story and wrote and rewrote it. Then they drew pictures and finally we put it all together.

A few of them are only a couple of pages, but there are ones that are up to 10 pages. We are sure you will enjoy reading our first story books. You can see some real writing talents there.

(Masoud Motlagh, Year 3M Class Teacher)





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Year 3W came in dressed as pirates and solved adventure puzzles and blindfolded mazes to practice their locational language and maths orientation skills. We had fun swinging swords and shooting guns.



3W also created a news report in the style of the BBC World News. The class researched and drafted these



reports in groups before recording them for the final cut. We definitely have some future news anchors in Cambridge.

(David Wells, Year 3W Class Teacher)

We were working on castles since March with **Year 4H** and **4S**. At first the children made sketches, and then they joined into groups or worked alone on a paper model of the castle. Some of the castles were inspired by movies, some of them were spooky, some of them were very fancy, but each of them was made with a great effort and enthusiasm. We used waste materials like old shoe boxes, eggs packaging or toilet paper rolls to build the construction. Children proved a huge amount of creativity by designing the towers, walls, surroundings of the castles, and by decorating them.

In the end, we arranged an exhibition of the final works and everybody could vote for the best castle. 1st place with 114 votes belongs to Seo Lynn, YeBin and Bianca from Y4S. 2nd place with 72 votes went to Janka and Sophie from Y4S, and the 3rd place with 64 votes belongs to Y4S students Laura, Ester and Sophia.

(Eva Mikulášová, Teacher of Art)









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In **Year 4H** we spent the weeks leading up to book week writing our own stories and creating our own books. We then shared them with each other, and will put them on display so the rest of the school can read and enjoy them too.

During the book week we also came to school in our pyjamas and had a bed time reading session together with Year 4S.

(Jason Harrison, Year 4H Class Teacher)







During book week class **Year 4S** visited class 2G to read the stories they had written. These stories were fantasy stories based upon one of the books in the Narnia series which class 4S studied last term. Both classes thoroughly enjoyed the visit and are looking forwards to further opportunities to work together.

You can read a part of one of the stories called 'The Opposite Land' by Artur Wieger:





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"Where am I?" asked Jack. "You are in Opposite Land," replied a boy. "What is your name?" asked Jack. Tom was a boy from Opposite Land and he became Jacks friend. Tom knew everything about Opposite Land. "There is a man who is half scorpion and half man. "He is most dangerous thing in Opposite Land his name is Scorp." said tom. Jack was so scared

"But I know a man who can fight it." said Tom. Jack was so happy that Tom knows a man who can beat Scorp. "Oh but Scorp can hypnotize that is the reason why we are called Opposite Land" whispered Tom. Jack was so scared but he wants to save people from Opposite Land.

"Let's go to king cheetah" said Tom. Jack and Tom were travelling many days. Finally on the 8th day they saw a little jungle. "We are here" said Tom. A yellow and dotted skin came out of the jungle. "King Cheetah Scorp will kill every one and just you can stop him."

Stop by in Year 4S to find out how the story ends and to read other students' stories as well ©.

(Faye Smith, Year 4S Class Teacher)





It has been quite a prosperous month in terms of displaying the results of our hard work in **Year 5H**. In English, the children finished writing and illustrating their fables which you can see on the wall outside of our classroom. Read a few and you will be surprised by how much you will learn from the foolish characters!

We have also been very busy in our Science lessons – we just finished the Space topic and decided that it would be a great idea to have the display of the Solar system in our class. It was a very messy job (and without accidents – our first version of the Sun collapsed) but now we are proud to present to you our Solar system.

(Edita Harrison, Year 5H Class Teacher)



Year 6 had a busy and exciting second term at school. Between January and April we built mountains; completed geography projects on many countries around the world; led two assemblies, one about St Valentine and one about the English tradition of Mothering Sunday. One of the most popular aspects of our learning was carrying out practical science experiments. It was the term of chemistry and it is amazing how many very interesting experiments can be carried out with some basic chemicals, many of which are to be found in the kitchen cupboard.

Some of our geography lessons found the students crawling around on the floor measuring the dimensions of the room and furniture in order to produce detailed floor plans which I am sure our architect would approve of. We also concentrated on different genres of writing and the fruits of these labours can be seen on the display board outside our classroom. I invite you to come and take a look at that board and the mountain models clearly on display by the big classroom window.

If your child is in Y6 I am sure you would like to see their work, if your child is in a lower class, come and see what work at the top end of Primary is like and the levels your child will be reaching when they are in Y6. We worked hard and had fun last term and I am sure that this summer term will be more of the same. Life in Y6 is good, but don't take my word for it, ask the students!

(Judi Easton, Year 6E Class Teacher)









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Year 6E visited Bratislava City gallery in Mirbach's Palace in the city centre to take a look at a project inspired by Art Nouveau. It was the first visit of any gallery at all for most of the students (and for some of them also the first journey by public transport ©). The exhibition shows early works and sketches of one of the most famous Art Nouveau artists, Czech painter Alphonse Mucha.

We spoke about techniques he used, themes he was interested in and reasons why. It was a good opportunity for children to see original art works and to learn how to behave in a gallery. Together with Mrs Judi we were proud of how well the students behaved and how interested they were.

(Eva Mikulášová, Teacher of Art)





Big Thank You



In the last few weeks I was talking to our students and also colleagues about problems which bother us in our lives. Students are worried about their coming tests and exams. They want to perform well and achieve good grades. And teachers? Well, we are also worried about the coming tests and exams. We want our stu-

dents to perform well and achieve good grades too. We feel the pressure too. There are also homework and projects, class work, quizzes... The changing weather does not help as well.

So the big question is: "What can we do to feel better?" We need to focus on something that makes us happy or gives us more optimistic view on our work. We need to find something to look forward to every day. For me, being with my colleagues and my students really means a lot. Being with friends and people who make you feel welcome is something that gives me energy and enthusiasm to get out of my bed every day. It helps me to overcome hardships and everyday problems with courage and optimism. I would like to say big "thank you" for this to my students and my colleagues. You make my life better and I am very thankful for that.

(Elena Turoňová, Teacher of German)



Newsletter

Secondary Assembly



According to PhDr. Jana Heilmaier, having good manners can change your whole life, especially when it comes to social situations. Just learning how to shake someone's hand properly can change a person's first impression.

Involved in numerous organizations, Mrs Heilmaier is a trained etiquette teacher who specializes in business etiquette, image consulting and children's education.

Her presentation was mainly focused on business manners, table manners and social manners. She began by talking about how to introduce yourself in a confident, polite way and how to engage people in conversation. She addressed the issue of how to present yourself appropriately at interview or any professional meeting and the etiquette of using social media.

Next, she discussed the importance of appropriate clothing and physical presentation for the appropriate situation. Finally, the children worked in groups to arrange a table-setting in an

RNDr. Marek Bombara, PhD. is a nuclear physicist who is now based at Pavol Jozef Safarik University in Košice. He worked at the University of Birmingham for more than 3 years and is one of the scientists working on project Alice in CERN. ALICE is a general-purpose heavy-ion experiment designed to study the physics of strongly interacting matter and the quark-gluon plasma in nucleus-nucleus collisions at the LHC (Large Hadron Collider). He had very interesting presentation and discussion with our secondary students about CERN.

(Mária Sirniková, Teacher of Science and Chemistry)



appropriate way and Ms Heilmaier demonstrated correct restaurant behaviour and dining etiquette. Reflecting on the session, Joe Himi (9S) stated "it was a really useful session, which will help us in future life."

(Claire Smith, Year 9S Class Teacher)





Some of the **Year 7T** students prepared nice and very interesting presentations about different groups of invertebrates for their classmates. They also classified different groups of plants in Horský park.

(Mária Sirniková, Teacher of Science and Chemistry)

Year 7T were exploring the ballad 'The Highwayman' (by Alfred Noyes) last term as part of their poetry unit of work in English. I took some photographs of them creating freeze frames and role plays of parts of the poems.



"...he rode with a jewelled twinkle,

His pistol butts a-twinkle,

His rapier hilt a-twinkle, under the jewelled

sky."

(Claire Smith, Teacher of English Language and Literature)



"He did not come in the dawning; he did not come at noon;

And out o' the tawny sunset, before the rise o' the moon,

When the road was a gypsy's ribbon, looping the purple moor,

A red-coat troop came marching—

Marching—marching—

King George's men came matching, up to the old

inn-door."



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Year 8H are currently studying the play 'Macbeth' by William Shakespeare. Please find attached a couple of photographs of some of the drama activities that we have been using to bring the play 'to life'. Students were given key quotations from the beginning of the play and created freeze frames and role plays to explore the meaning and portray their understanding of the quotations.



The first one was:

When shall we three meet again
In thunder, lightning, or in rain?' (The witches)
The second one was:

'For brave Macbeth, – well he deserves that name, Disdaining fortune, with his brandish'd steel,
Which smok'd with bloody execution,
Like valour's minion carv'd out his passage
Till he fac'd the slave.'

(Claire Smith, Teacher of English Language and Literature)

Year 9S students were in Horský park and classified main groups of plants according to their typical characteristics. They are also studying electricity during Physics classes – they model and explain how common types of components, including cells affect current and are learning how to measure voltage and current in a circuit.

(Mária Sirniková, Teacher of Science and Chemistry)





As a part of their preparation for the forthcoming IGCSE exams in Biology and Coordinated Science, our **Year**11 students performed

simple physiological experiments - tests for food substances. They tested different types of food for starch, reducing sugars, proteins and fats. They all did great job and obtained the expected results. Special praise should go to Adam and Mashu for completing all task as first ones and for exemplar work in the lab as well as to Karolina and other girls for performing additional tests and sharing the results with others. Well done Year 11 and good luck on your exams!

(Magdaléna Kubešová, Teacher of Mathematics and Biology)



Newsletter

Features

Read more about Mr Masoud Motlagh and his adventures in the following interview ©:



Which places have you been to (and what did you do there)?

I have travelled to many countries in east Asia and Europe. My travels were mostly work related. The most shocking place I have ever been was the war fronts during the war between Iran and Iraq in 1984. Yes, that's right, the very front line of war fronts.

What jobs have you done and whereabouts?

I have worked as a teacher in Iran. Then I joined the United Nations. There I worked as a project assistant. We did many interesting projects to help the country in its efforts for development. There, I also worked as a finance assistant and later as a finance officer. I finished my career in UN as an operations manager. My main responsibility was to make sure that the programme that our office had was carried out smoothly and as planned. It was very difficult and challenging.

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I was born a teacher. I started to help my friends back in high school. They told me that I could explain things very well and they learnt it better. This was very encouraging for me. I take a lot of joy when I see that I can help people learn. The moment when they learn a new thing and there is a glow in their eyes is priceless for me. Or when they perform and succeed and I see that what I did is now producing results, I feel so good. Nothing can be compared to that.

What do you do in your free time?

In my free time, I like to read, cycle, take walks in the woods, and watch movies. I also love to spend time with my family. So I do some of these with my wife and children and the joy is even more.

Children's Corner

Take a look at this nice young family and guess who the baby girl in her mother's arms is. A hint for you—she resembles her mom quite a lot ©.

Please submit your guesses to the class teachers by Friday, May $23^{\rm rd}$ at the latest. The correct answer from the previous newsletter was Ms Faye Smith.



