



Kindergarten Newsletter - April 2015



Dear parents, welcome to April - the craziest month of all the months, at least as far as the weather is concerned ☺ . We set off to this month in a crazy Pyjamas Day mood... but then, as you will read, we calmed down and experienced also other amazing things. Just sit down comfortably, grab a cup of tea or coffee, put your feet on a table and dive into our world ☺ .

Our annual **Gardening Day** is long-awaited time of year meaning the real beginning of spring for all of us. There are plenty of things to be done. The storage needs a proper cleaning after winter. The seeds are waiting to be seeded and sand-pit to be opened. The plane in the corner needs a new spring dress. And these were just a few things to be mentioned. The gardening didn't start with the D-day itself as you might think. Teachers, together with kids, started to prepare our garden already a few days before. We got many keen helpers who voluntarily exchanged cars and motorbikes for rakes and spades and helped to prepare the soil for planting veggies. The days before gardening we were impatiently checking the weather forecast twice a day. Our big day turned out to be proper a April day with sun, clouds, wind and rain but fortunately the morning stayed calm. We welcomed many mummies, siblings and even a few grandparents who turned out to be the most hard-working and experienced gardeners. Daddies are probably not so fond of gardening ☺. The garden looked like an ant-hill – busy workers were going here and there, everybody contributing in their own way. The smallest ones had hard times understanding that toys are out of the storage not for playing but to be washed. Bigger ones were just amazing – they assisted the small ones with everything – filling the watering cans, holding paint brushes or carrying heavy toys. You could meet a mommy taking care not only of her own child but helping all the child's friends. On the other hand, moms had a chance to experience teachers' challenging jobs when trying to explain their kid how to plant a seedling, why not to step on the other plants and not to hit another child with the hose in the same time. One way or another, all the tasks were done successfully. Our sandpit is clean and waiting for the nice days to come, our plane is shining with spring colours, the storage is neat and organized, there are flowers of all kinds in all the corners and we can look forward to yummy healthy summer veggie snacks. We can be proud of ourselves for doing a great job. Big thanks belong to all the parents that supported our effort, either by coming or by sending a contribution (seeds, flowers, tools etc.). So, let's enjoy our new spring garden!



Highlight of the month...





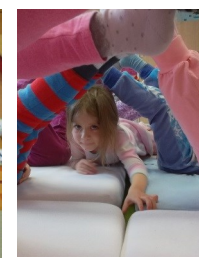
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This month started really crazy – with **All Fools' Day**. It was a great fun to come to the KG just in our pyjamas and to stay the whole day in these comfy outfits. ☺ We enjoyed all the activities we are not allowed to do throughout the year - pillow fight, jumping on the beds, having nap during the day, doing silly crafts, drawing with closed eyes or making up ridiculous jokes. We played some small pranks on one another too and also learnt how to respond to them by laughing about them. ☺ Just check the pictures and you will see how much we enjoyed this silly day. ☺



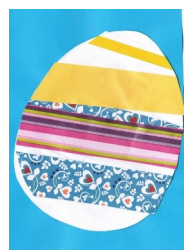
We've been busy with...



We spy...

With coming **Easter** holiday we spent a few days talking about this big feast. We decorated Easter eggs, crafted baby animals which are very typical for this time of year and during our walks we also observed daffodils and forsythias in the gardens of our neighbours. We were soooo looking forward to Easter egg hunts... Unfortunately, we did not manage to spot Easter Bunny hiding chocolate eggs for us... we really tried, but all we saw in the morning were dozens of chocolate eggs spread all around the classes and in the garden as well. We had great time searching for them and we collected them into our handmade baskets. We also

experienced Slovak traditions of "šibačka" and boys spanked the girls with whips "korbáče". Boys enjoyed chasing the girls and girls enjoyed boys' attention. ☺



... Of course, we were curious how our kids spent their Easter holidays... And there is no better way to cure the curiosity than to ask them. So here are their answers... ☺

Sofia H.: *How did you celebrate Easter at home?* That we was finding the eggs. Then we did wake up and then we did go down and we did see there some Easter eggs hidden. *Where did you find them?* My mommy did shop some of the Easter egg. *Did somebody whip you?* Yes, my daddy. That he did take some stick and he did to me šibi ryby. *Did he put some water on you?* Yes. *Where?* In the kitchen. *What did you do?* I was just shouting and yelling, he did whip also my mommy and then we did change to normal clothes and then somebody else did come to whip us. *Who was it?* Mimi's daddy. *Did you give him anything?* Yes, my painted egg that we did with my mommy. *Did you offer him something to eat?* Yes. *What was it?* Carrot. *Really? Didn't you prepare any special food for Easter day?* No, just carrot.

Taeyoon: *Do you remember Easter?* Easter? *Did we do anything special in the KG?* Yes, I'll think about that... mmm. *Do you remember the Easter egg hunt?* Yeeees! But I did find the Easter egg! *You found some eggs?* Yes, the little one and big one. *And why did we have that?* Because it was Easter day. *Did you celebrate Easter at home somehow?* Yes. *How?* Sixteen. *Did you do something special at home?* Yes. *What?* I did found eggs. *Also at home?* Yes. *And who hid them?* Mister bunny! *Did you have some special meal to eat?* Yes. *What was it?* Milk with chocolate. *That was a special Easter meal?* Yes. *Did you have any other special activity for Easter?* No. *No party, no celebration?* Yes I did party!!!! *What kind of party?* Halloween. Yes, Halloween was a long time ago, but now it was Easter... But I did scared Halloween, because there is witch and monsters also zombies! *I see, but they probably didn't come for Easter, did they?* Aha! No. Easter is something else than Halloween, right? Yes.





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Fifo Č.: *How do you celebrate Easter at home?* That I whip my grandma and other grandma and also my mommy and sometimes and I don't know if my cousin or still I can whip my mommy. *Why do you whip them?* Because I like them and I want so they will be healthy and nice. *And what did you get after you whip them?* A lot of a lot of sweets. One hundred. *What did you use for whipping?* Whip. *And where did you have the whip from?* From some shop. *Did you buy it or make it?* My mommy or my daddy buy it. *Try to describe what happened on the Easter Monday morning...* You woke up and then? I don't remember what I did. *Did you also water your mommy?* No, I forgot to. *Who were wiping with you?* My brother Luki. *And daddy, right?* Yes. *And what was your mommy doing?* She did home something for the lunch for us and still she is working on computer and also sometimes with telephone. *Do you like Easter?* Yes. *And what do you like about Easter?* The sweets, the whipping and the song. *What song?* The šibi ryby. *Can you tell it to me?* Šibi ryby masné ryby, kus koláča a ešte k tomu žuvačku a sto eur do vačku. I was also singing it to my grandma and to my mommy.

We spy...



Pet'ko: *Do you remember Easter?* Yes. *Can you tell me how do you celebrate Easter at home?* I was in Nová Dubnica and I did go even to whip the girls. *Really? How many of them?* I think that just some. I did whip just my mommy and my sister and my grandmas. *Do you also splash them?* Yes. *Do you use also something else, some perfume?* You know the... how to say it in English... like one Easter what was behind, not this one. *The last Easter...* The last Easter I did from my grandpa... grandpa did give me, share to me the perfume and I was „Sh Sh“ *Spraying the girls with perfume?* Yes (laughter) *And did daddy and grandpa whip with you?* Just with my daddy. *And did your daddy splash water on your mommy?* We didn't splash water. *Did you have any special meal?* Yes! Yummy... the first meal was really yummy. *What was it like?* Like orange egg... I don't know how to say it in English, údené mäso... *Smoked meat...* So, smoked meet, salami and mandarin and bread. *Wow, did you have also the potato salad with mayo?* I don't know if potato salad... maybe I don't like potato salad. *And what were you celebrating on Easter?* Can I tell you what I get from my grandma? *Yes, tell me.* 20 Euros! Real ones! Yes and I have even so many moneys because I am even working. *What did you get the money for?* You know the... what you are saying when you are whipping. *You mean the rhyme? The whipping rhyme?* Yeah. *Can you tell me the rhyme?* But it's in Slovak. *Never mind you can say it to me in Slovak.* Šibi ribi masné ryby, dávaj vajcia od korbáča ešte k tomu kus koláča ešte k tomu groš už je toho dosť! *Was there anything special that you celebrated at Easter?* I don't know... *Or did you go someplace special?* Actually, I didn't. *Did your grandma or your mommy also colour some eggs?* No, my grandma just give me one super duper chocolate egg what you can open and there is chocolate even chocolate crème. And even for my sister one, but my sister I think the thing she spill it. *And did you get some ribbon on your whip?* Yes. *Do you remember also the colour?* Yes, I once I can bring here the whip is sooo big! And I did it with the prútiky with my daddy. *Oh my, I didn't know you can make a whip.* Yes!



Luki E.: *Do you celebrate Easter somehow at home?* I don't know. *We had Easter holiday in here do you remember?* Yes. *Did you do anything special at home?* No. *Do you remember what we were doing in the kindergarten?* Yes, we were finding the eggs and the rabbits. *Do you do something similar at home?* No. *Or do you do something different, like whipping the girls or something?* I was. *Who?* My grandma, and my mommy my another grandma and I don't know how to say it... prateta. *You can say just aunt. And why do we do that? The whipping?* I don't know... *Did your daddy go with you?* Yes. *What did it look like? What did you do?* I did whip. *And did you splash water?* Yes. *And your daddy?* Also. *Did you have also any perfume?* I don't know... *And your mommy and grandma... what did they do when you whipped them?* Nothing. *Where they happy or sad?* I don't know! *Did they give you anything?* Yes, some chocolates, 30 chocolates. *Did they give you also any ribbon or coloured eggs?* Yes, red ones I did choose, just red ones. *Who coloured the eggs?* My grandma and also Ali, my aunt. *Did you say any special rhyme?* No, only šibi ryby. *But I still wonder why... why do we do that?* To wish them to be healthy. *Did you have also any special meal?* I don't know, we did have only soup. *Do you know why we have Easter? What is it about?* No. *Did you make the whip with your daddy?* No. *What do you think... did your daddy make it or buy it?* I don't know. *Guess, can he make the whip?* I think no ☺

Stelinka P.: *How did you celebrate Easter at home?* I didn't celebrate nothing like that. *Really? Nobody whipped you this year?* Somebody did whip me on Horňáky. *Who was it?* Daddy, my brother. *Try to describe what happened on the Easter Monday morning...* You woke up and then? And then when I woke up my daddy did whip me and my daddy did like... put water on me. *Lots of water?* Yeah. And my brother did on my mommy. He did put all the water on her. And then she did go and then she did go on the raňajky and then she said like: „Oh, I am all wet.“ and then I did have three Easter eggs and there was one car one the dinosaur and the ježko. And my brother had the same. *And what did you give to your brother?* Easter egg. *Was the Easter egg chocolate or painted one?* Did you paint any eggs? Yes I did paint in my home with my mommy and Janka, Tomáško and my brother. *And how did you paint them?* That I'll have my egg I will put the stickers and then I will paint it. *Did you eat something special on Easter?* Normal food and also chipsy. *Do you like Easter?* Yes, because we can have Easter eggs we can paint ourselves and everything.



Sophia Sh.: *How did you celebrate Easter at home?* The Easter bunny was hiding the eggs and we did like... find the Easter eggs. Then we did go somewhere and then we did find the bigger Easter eggs little bit later. *Where did you find the Easter eggs?* In the garden. *What happened when you found the Easter eggs?* I did eat some. *And then?* I went to some museum. *Did somebody come to whip you?* No we are not whipping. *How many Easter eggs did you find?* Like 16 of the small ones and later I found like the 19 and with the small one all together I found like 29. *All of them were just for you?* Yeah, I also with my daddy was sharing. *Do you like Easter?* Yes, because we can have Easter eggs.



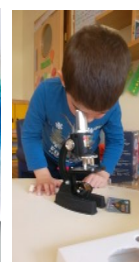


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We've been busy with...

Spring weather awakened in us a desire for **NATURE**, thus we spent a lot of time outdoors. We've learned many things about the process of growing "stuff", we questioned ourselves about what we can grow and what we can't. (For example, some would want to grow the sweets but luckily for us, "responsible ones", it's not possible ☺.) We also paid attention to the needs of our Mother Earth and learned about some threats bearable for children's ears. But anyway, they've had already pretty wide range of information about the consequences of polluting the waters or forests and they were quite determined to change and clean the world...



We devoted one spring week to help our Earth not only by talking and learning what is right or wrong but also by our own hands. We joined the annual **Earth Day** also this year and successfully, of course... This year we've spread all over the streets surrounding our KG equipped with plastic bags instead of gloves and huge garbage bags to collect all the stuff that doesn't belong on the ground. Each child from the smallest Donkeys and Elephants up to the oldest Dolphins and Pandas took active part, creeping into darkest corners in hunt for litter. Even now, after the clean-up day, it is hard to stop them from picking the rubbish when we go for a walk. Even more, we solved the important question which troubled our children a lot: "How can they possibly clean all the planet?" And do you know what? DaKyoung came to a conclusion that if each one of us decides to clean our little place, maybe others will do the same and that way we **WILL** clean all the planet. Isn't that smart? ☺ After all, our kids can feel that, although being small, they become important members of the society supporting well-being of all Bratislava citizens :)



In April, all the classes had a chance to explore the **Botanical Garden** in Bratislava. It is a peaceful and charming piece of nature in our noisy city. In the mornings on week-days the garden is nearly empty so it felt like our kingdom. The weather turned out great and everything was green and in bloom, birds singing everywhere. Each class had a different experience and when we asked the kids a few days later, they all had different memories, too. For Dolphins, the most fascinating was special kind of dead-looking grass from New Zealand which in fact was fresh and full of life using its "worn image" to cheat birds and other animals that would otherwise eat it. Hippos were grateful to staff of the garden for allowing them to pick the old giant cones and bring them back to KG. Whales loved the fancy bushes that were cut into special shapes. Zebras enjoyed blooming trees and flowers which they not only looked at, but also smelled and even tried to draw. Donkeys loved staying in the green-house where there was humid and warm air and they could explore the jungle-like hidden paths and ponds. The kids, as well as teachers, fully enjoyed this green oasis and no wonder we all wished to stay longer.



Another of our spring adventures was **Scavenger Hunt** at Železná Studnička. You ask what is the scavenger hunt? Let me describe how it went and you'll get the picture. Kids got a list defining specific items (pictures of living things you can find in nature) and they had to search for them. The goal was to find everything on the list and capture it with a camera. The "by the way" goals were to find out more about living things surrounding us and widen kids' vocabulary (e.g. cabbage butterfly, locust tree, black ground beetle...). This "spy mission" suited us pretty well, kids took it very seriously, or at least the competitive part ☺. Nobody can, or would, want to stop the tomfoolery in nature in this beautiful weather. Anyway, that's what childhood is about, isn't it? ☺



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Do you know Usborne Publishing? After our **Book Fair** you surely do! ☺ According to their web site, Usborne is the biggest independent children's book publisher in UK. They have around 2,000 titles in print. They publish almost every type of children's book for every age group, from baby books to young adult novels. We are happy they came to our kindergarten and offered us nice books for a very nice prize... We hope you had a chance to take a look at their books and maybe even bought one or two...



We've been busy with...

We've been busy with...

May is approaching very fast and with it also a very special event for all children and their moms... The Day when we will celebrate their importance in our life... **Mother's Day** ☺ And of course, we've been really busy with the **preparations** for it ☺... starting with invitations, then creating presents, practicing some program, drama, songs... even more, brainstorming and summing up the topic and checkpoints... ☺ If you want to get a feeling, just have a look at our pictures... Don't worry, we'll not spoil any fun... You won't find there any present we have in stock. ☺ We also made a short research to find out about Mother's day from kids... We wish you a good fun ☺

Uprkova

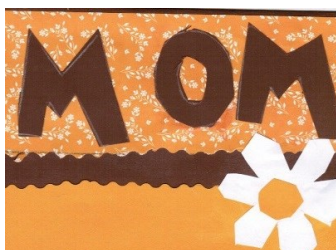
Thursday, 14.5.2015

Elephants at 15:15

Bumblebees at 15:30

Pandas at 15:50

Topic: Slovak traditions ☺



Tamarka M.: Why should your mommies come for Mother's Day? Because he, because Mother's Day is special and they can go there because we like it, we like them. **What will mommies do in here?** That he will watch us, because... because... we will not see them when they will be still in the work and then we will hop we will catch him (she shows hugging). **Catch or hug?** Hug and catch.



Eric R. Why do we have mother's day? Because we will give something and we will have celebration for the mother's day. **Why should our mommies come?** So, that we can make something with our mommies and so, that we can play with them. **Why do we need our moms?** Because, so I will not stay alone and I can play also with her. **Did we prepare something for them?** Yes, I prepared a present and I did learn a song.



Nikolka H.: Why do we invite mommies for Mother's Day? Because they are so good to us, and they are helping us. **Do we do anything for our mommies?** We are doing XXXXX for some presents. **Are you also preparing some performance?** Yea, we did learn the song and we did learn it in our class. **What do you think... do mommies like to come here?** Yea, because they are záležat' on us. **They care for us...** Yea. **And is your mommy coming for Mother's Day?** Maybe yes.



Gajova

Wednesday, 13.5.2015

Zebras & Whales at 15:20

Donkeys at 15:40

Hippos & Dolphins at 16:00

Topic: Tea Time ☺ / Hat obligatory ☺

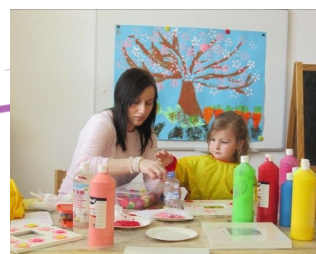


Francesco S. Why do we have mother's day?

For making mommies happy and because we love her and because we want to hug them.

Why should our mommies come? Because then they will not have present and because we are singing the song for them. **Why do we need our moms?** Because they are doing good on us and they love us. **Did we prepare something for them?** Yes, a present, some game and a nice song.

Stelka R. Why do we have mother's day? Because it is mother's day and we are going to talk about that we have dear mommies, you know? **Why should our mommies come?** Because they will sit at the tables and they will look at me what I will show. **Why do we need mom?** Because she will come after the sleeping, maybe. **Did we prepare something for them?** A present, and maybe I don't know.





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Features...



Alexandra Bašánová

Another couple of our teachers is waiting for your „inspection“ ☺. This time we gave a few questions to **Ms Saška**, the assistant teacher in Pandas class on Uprkova setting, and **Ms Nika**, the assistant teacher of Dolphins on Gajova setting.

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I always knew I wanted to work with people. That's why I decided for my study. During my praxis and jobs I already spent my time working with kids. After I graduated, I was working with all age targets, but there was always something missing. When I got the opportunity to work with children, I had no doubts this is what I want to do. Even now, I am still in touch with my teacher from high school. She became one of the people who influenced my life forever. I think that teaching is one of the oldest and the most indispensable professions in the world and it has its reason.

Why kindergarten?

Kids in such a small age are full of life. Their dreams, fantasy and excitement is something what we, adults, often forget or cannot find the time for. We are trying to guide them and teach them, but they remind us in return how beautiful and fascinating the life can be and they are not even aware of it! Isn't it amazing? ☺

What was your best day in the Kindergarten?

There are a lot of memories and moments running through my mind right now – when some kids hugged me, created something for me, talked about their dreams and experiences, read or wrote something for the first time, or just laughed out loud. It is impossible to choose just one moment.

Do you play at home?

I looooooove games!!! I remember playing the Activity game with my family last weekend...I would never say that I am able to act out an armadillo ☺

What other hobbies do you have?

Traveling! I have many hobbies, but this is something that actually became a part of my life. Exploring the world, new cities and places, cultures and getting to know new people became my passion. Plus during my trips I get to do and enjoy the rest of my hobbies which is reading books and listening to music ☺

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

My grandma was a huge inspiration for me. She worked as a teacher for her whole life. We often had discussions about how a single person can make a difference by educating the smallest once. I knew that I wanted to follow her in her footsteps. I always felt like I can change the world ☺

Why kindergarten?

I never really decided to be a kindergarten teacher. But since I work in the kindergarten I would never change it. I think it's one of the most difficult jobs, but it's certainly something what makes me happy. I feel like not too many people can say that they love their job. And I really love my job ☺

What was your best day in the kindergarten?

It's really difficult to choose one day out of so many. I love my work and I enjoy it every day. What really makes me happy is when kids choose to do something what I taught them during their free time. It makes me happy to see that they love what they learned with me.

Do you play at home?

I am a huge animal lover. I brought home many animals from the streets. Currently I have one yorkie and two squirrels. So, I play with them every day. I usually chase my squirrels because they never want to go back to the cage ☺. And I play with my dog hide and seek. When he steals my things and I have to search for them. Most of the times I give up and I will find it months later ☺ .

What other hobbies do you have?

I love nature so I spend most of my free time outside. I have a small dog and I enjoy taking him for long walks every day. During the summer I go to swim in lakes and during winter time I enjoy snow on a snowboard. I like to dance as well so I like to go to parties with my friends. I love to travel so anytime I can afford it I travel around the world. Honestly, I have more hobbies than free time ☺



Nika Urbanová

Upcoming events

We are happy that many parents were so kind to participate actively in May “Parents teaching” project. The aim of the project is to bring the kids to the “real job world” for a while ☺ Here are some occupations which we will focus on... Don't worry we will keep you informed and provide you with all the details on time ☺



Rescuer
Gajova



Fireman
Uprkova



Teacher
Gajova



Scientist
Uprkova



Diplomat
Gajova



Photographer
Gajova



Artist
Gajova



Policeman
Uprkova

Of course, we look forward to our **Mother's Day** event (advertised already since February, by the way ☺), too. Please, check the details on the previous page of this newsletter or in the e-mail “Info Newsletter” or the official invitation made by your children or the board in the changing room or just ask your teacher... ☺ We all look forward to seeing you soon...