



Kindergarten Newsletter - February & March 2015



After a short break we come to you again with another issue of our Kindergarten newsletter. This time it is a double issue of February and March together and we hope we won't overwhelm you with too much of information and events which have happened over this period. We tried our best to choose only those most interesting moments... :)

Highlight of the month

February as well as March were full of interesting moments with the potential of being a highlight of the month:) However, the funniest, the craziest and the most creative event in our Kindergarten in this period was ...
... picture is a hint...



...any idea? :)... no?

... It was our

Fashion show,

for sure ! :)

It was a multi-challenge task for both teachers and children demanding on their creativity, planning, skills, presentation and courage... The annual "What is beauty?" topic always brings pleasant and unexpected surprises and this year wasn't an exception... Thus we are really very proud to present to you all our fashion collections created by young talented designers of Funiversity and CIS :)



Panda class (Y1) School fashion... :)



Accessories... :)



B-Bee class (R) Wedding designs... :)



Elephant class (N)



Dolphin class (Y1)



Donkey class (N)

Spring colours... :)



Hippo class (R)



Contrast of Colours...



Flower power... :)



Zebra class (N)



Fashion over the ages...



Whale class (R) Summer 2015 designs... :)



Over the world you can find several dates which are donated to teachers and the appreciation of their work, and probably the most respected is the 5th October established by UNESCO as a "World teacher's day". Anyway, there is a long tradition of National **teachers day** celebrated on 28th March in Slovakia and thus we would like to thank also all the parents who joined our effort to appreciate a hard work of our teachers in Funiversity-CIS :). Beside the flowers and chocolates from you, for which we are honestly really thankful, we worked on a small secret surprise with all the children, too... and here is its final defile... :)



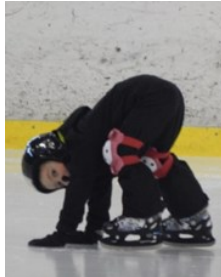


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Yet another year, our Reception and Y1 children showed their sport spirit on the **skating course**. Few weeks after recovering from the skiing adventure, we all gained new strength to put our skates on and slide and glide front and back, left to right, here and there.... You would not believe how hard and challenging was skating for your children but with the motto "Never give up and keep trying" – everybody learnt to skate in the end. Even those, who did not believe they could :).

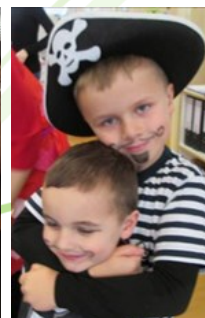
We've been busy with...



The course took place at the big Ondrej Nepela ice-skating hall and children tried to learn basic skating skills during one hour daily over one week. To provide the best possible care and individual attention and approach we hired 10 instructors. Children were divided into three basic groups from beginners to upper intermediates.

We've been busy with...

February - a time for love and care. Without Valentine's Day, February would be...well an ordinary month of the year :) So despite the fact how short February was, the Valentine's Day made it interesting and exciting. At first, within the topic "I am all I love", we created beautiful Valentine's cards for everybody we love and then enjoyed the surprise and excitement of our friends when they got them. The thought of Valentine's Carnival made the preparations even more exciting. We could not wait for this day to come and dress up in various costumes and turn into princesses, knights, animals, heroes, fairies and many more. One thing we can say for sure is, that, there was a lot of love and fun in the air:).





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We spy...

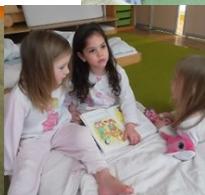
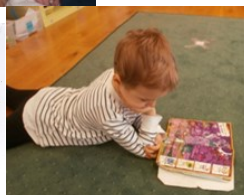
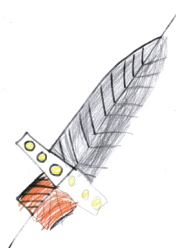
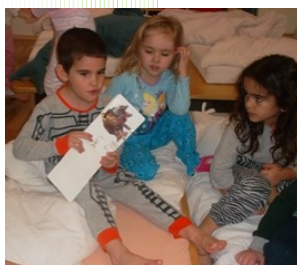
or
connected to **literature**, just please, have a look...

All over the world, **March** is well known for being an international **month of reading** :) ... also our kindergarten joined this annual effort to develop and support a positive attitude of our children toward books, stories, literature and literacy in general... Honestly, we spent really a lot of time in March with reading and talking about books; even drawing or acting out the stories; making up our own crazy, scary or just non-sense tales; sharing our "reading skills" or "favourite fairy tales"... Oh, yes, lots of our daily, weekly and even monthly activities were somehow

March 2015



First of all, of course, we all became very fond of **reading** (even more than before:))... You could see us reading anywhere and anytime - alone, with the friends or teacher, for ourselves or for others... Most important was to choose a good story, though :)



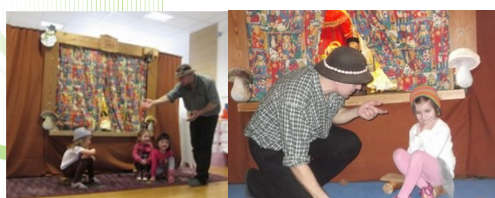
In connection to this "reading euphoria" we decided to invest some time and money to new story books. Yes, we took a **trip to Bookstores** and explored a variety of books of different colours, sizes, genres, topics, authors... Each class brought back to kindergarten the best possible "catch" mostly as a result of democratic voting according to general story popularity in particular classes :) And if not, you can be sure that teachers took an advantage of veto and chose something suitable, interesting and enriching by themselves :)



Well, beside all those stories we read or heard, we decided to explore acted out stories, too. Yes, we talk about real "drama" in a real big theatre... :) We took our steps to **Malá scéna theatre** and although we chose different **performance** for big ones and small ones, all children with no exception (even the small donkeys :)) took a part. While older children were "**Discovering America**", the small section watched the life challenges and struggles of a little sparrow "**Chin-Chin**" :)



Pandas and Dolphins visited also the **City library** and took an excursion in the section of "child literature"... an amazing workshop about "Little prince" opened them the hidden doors to the world where everything was possible... to the world with no borders, no limits to fantasy... :)



We also welcomed Mr Hoblina and his amazing, funny and really joyful **marionette performance**. Although some of us were tired after skating, the performance was so appealing that even some of the skaters joined in. Kids could identify with the main character "Polepetko" quite easily, since he jumbled up everything he could :) Mr Hoblina is simply our favourite story teller:)



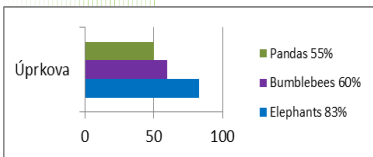
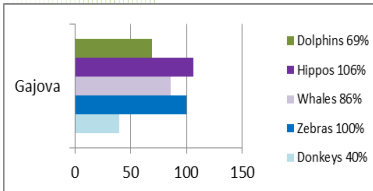


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In March, of course, we ran also our annual **Parents reading project** where all the parents and relatives of any kind :) (understand grandparents, aunties, uncles, sisters, brothers, family friends...simply anybody with reading skills :) could come to kindergarten to read a story for us. We would like to thank to all the parents who were truly eager and brave and we are happy to present our very first "newsletter graph" :), showing this year "parents reading" conquest in statistics and pictures:) P.S. We are very sorry but we could not post pictures of all the parents who joined...

We spy...



Even this year we had the whole spectrum of stories. Some of them were new, some of them already well known, but all of them were special because of you :) And how do we know? Because we have asked your children... :)



Who came to the KG today morning? My mommy **Why?** She was reading **What?** Play time and cuddle the moon **Did you like it?** Yes **For whom she was reading?** Everybody **Also for the scholars and director?** Nooo, just for the kindergarten, just the class of bumblebees. **Did B-bees listen to her?** At first I thought that Kostya and Benji are going to laugh because they are mean. **And did they laugh?** No, they liked it. **Did any other mom come to read for you?** Yes, Viki M and Kajka's

Brother. **Did you know the books?** Yes. "Winnie witch going to space", and the other one was "Super worm", he was very strong and very long **Which one was your favourite?** Both of them.

Who was in the KG today? Sofi **Anybody else?** Nobody **Are you sure?** No, aha yeah, my mummy came to read the story **Why?** Because somebody needs to come to read some mummy or daddy **But what do you think why?** So we know how they are looking **What story did she read?** Two stories about dragons **Can you tell me what one story was about?** That there was one man, that he did love fishing and one day that he did like not take a fish, but the worm. So the man did put that warm in the thing where we are putting the water. I mean it was dark and he did put it to that thing and then he did go out and he did grow even bigger and he did eat some cows in this house and so that man try to kill him and also the knights from the castle, but they couldn't kill him. So that man meet wise woman and she did help him that you need to go to another dragon in the world. So he did go there and he was sad and he was not scary, so he did tell him, why you are crying? Because anybody wants to come to me, he did not have any friends, and he was vegetarian and so he did go to that river where worm was swimming, he did scare him and then anybody see the worm again. **Did you like the story?** Yes **What about dolphins?** Dolphins like it, because they did say that they did like it **Do you remember any other parents?** Davidko's daddy and somebody else, but I don't remember who **What story you already heard was the best?** That one from Davidko's daddy, because I will tell you that story, because there was a little boy, who don't like to brush the teeth and he did not like to put on the pyjama, so his mummy tell him the story about the monster that he will brush his teeth quickly and he will put his pyjama on, you need to prepare cookies and apples, so the monster will come and you need to say word like monster, monster, one two, three, come on to play with me and then the monster did come, he did eat the cookies, so we can do that home and we can play with him, and go to sleep. And that is the real story, because we can do it at home and Davidko did play with that monster.



Filippo C.



Miško P.

sitting and reading **Did your friends like it?** Yes **Were also some other parents reading for your class?** No **Really?** No, I've seen other mommies **And did you like somebody's else book?** Yes, Damian's mommy **And what was the book about?** About a boy and the something what is in the space, the green, the little guy **The aliens?** Yes, the aliens, also the boy. And the boy did fix to the alien the spaceship and the alien did fix the airplane to the boy **Did you like some story more than the others?** I did love just Damie's. **And which parent did you like the best?** Mine! :)



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Melanie F.

I heard that yesterday somebody came to visit you. Is it true? Yes Who was it? I didn't see him I'm sure that you saw him or her. Try to think who came to visit all the zebras Maybe some boy It could be boy, but also girl I don't know. But I don't know who Who brought you to the KG? Mumy and daddy Good and did they stay here with you? They go to work Really? Didn't they read the book for you? Yes and also for all my children Why did they read book for zebras? Because it was their first day What was the book about? About little red riding hood Wow, can you tell me that story? It was about the wolf What did he do? He was eating grandma What happened then? Somebody come, but I don't know who was it Did he help grandmother? Yes Did your friends like that story? Yes, but Ninka was scared How do you know that they liked it? Because my mumy said that everybody did like it

We spy...

cus

class?

Not brothers, my brother she did first who reading, and Zoe's daddy, Viki M's mommy Ollies mommy and... Kubko's mommy and it's about krtko Did you like somebody more than other, how they read, or the stories they read? Yes, Ollies mommy, the books. Like a sova and a duck is all because his mommy reading two bookies Did you like this activity? Yes Would you like to read for Janko's class? I don't know



Karolinka V.



Itay G.

Who came to visit your Donkey class, mumy or daddy? Daddy Did he read story for you? Yes Just for you? To my children Do you remember name of the story? Little pigs What was it about? They see crocodile, crocodile eat their nose Crocodile wanted to eat their noses? Yes Why? Because they swim in the water And he didn't like it? Yes What happened there? Crocodile eat pigs nose Did they go to doctor? No So what did they do? They eat crocodile

Really? Yes Did you like this story? Yes Did Donkeys listen carefully? Yes Did they like the story? Yes How do you know it? Because I know it Do you want your daddy to come again? Yes



Nathan C.

Who came to visit us this morning? Now? Yes My daddy What was he doing here? He was reading story about small prince Can you tell me what the story was about? About elephant what eat snake and then he like klobúk vyzerat' Did he look like hat? Yes Did you like that story? Yes Is it your favourite story? Yes Did all the whales behave nicely? Yes, if not my daddy can go away Did your friends listen carefully? Yes Do you want your daddy to come again? Yes and tomorrow can come my mumy

Who came to visit dolphin class? My mumy What was she doing here? She came to read for us Gruffalo's child Why she came to read for you? Because she did need to Why? Just like that Can you tell me what was the book about? That Gruffalo did tell that the big bad mouse was terribly strong and his tail was terribly long and his eyes was terribly fire and his whiskers are terribly long Why did she choose this book for reading? Because she wants to read gruffalo's child and she did find this book Is it your favourite book? No What is your favourite book? Winnie the witch Did you enjoy this reading? Yes How other dolphins enjoyed this reading? Some of them was watching bookie like this and I did need to tell them go back and stay there, but other dolphins behave good Do you want your mumy to come again? Yes



Stelka P.

We've been busy with...

When talking about parents and their involvement in kindergarten's everyday life we also would like to mention a **dental check-up** for children from Gajova, which was organized and realized in cooperation with one of our parents as a part of yearly project

"parents teaching":) Children visited a real dentist and learned about the importance of brushing their teeth properly... Oh, yeah, dragons could tell you about it :) In addition, the brave children got a special certificate and parents got basic info about the actual "state" of their children's teeth ... Simply said, **THANK YOU :**)

Parents Teaching

IN CASE YOU HAVE A GOOD IDEA, TIP OR OPPORTUNITY AND YOU WOULD LIKE TO SHARE IT WITH US AND OUR CHILDREN, LET US KNOW :)

IN MAY, WE WILL HAVE A SPECIAL FOCUS ON 'MY PARENTS JOB' SO IF YOU WANT TO SHARE YOURS, PLEASE, GIVE US A NOTICE, TO HAVE TIME FOR PLANNING ON OUR SIDE:)



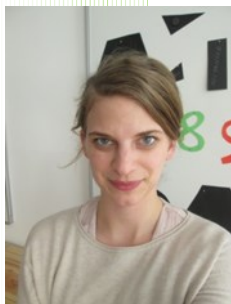


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It might seem we've introduced to you all our staff members already, but not... :) some of them still left... This time, we took an interview with our Hippo's class teacher **Mrs Hanka** on Gajova and **Ms Táňa**, the assistant teacher in Elephant class on Úprkova :) We hope you did not skip this intro so we can warn you in advance that Mrs Hanka has a very unusual sense of humour :) and we did not make any censorship... :)

Features...



Tatiana Urbanová

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

It wasn't me, it was destiny. I was browsing offers after my university studies (as every person who just graduated) and saw this advertisement about working in KG. I asked myself : "Why not? This can be amazing opportunity and job for me!" And actually, it really is! :)

Why Kindergarten?

Kids are like pure form, clean, honest, good. Tabula rasa. I am fascinated by the way they look at the world. To work with them, the possibility to infiltrate, to be in their world again is incalculable for me.

What was your best day in the Kindergarten?

Every day is different. That's the thing I love about this job. Every single day brings something new into my life. After my working hours I'm still thinking back about what amazing happened today. But once I was really delighted... I introduced surrealistic paintings by Salvador Dalí to Elephants and we were talking about them to find out what was at the picture. Their responses were even more surrealistic that the whole artwork of Dalí :) I love their imagination and I'm really pleased that they're sharing it with me :)

Do you play at home?

Well. Yes and no at the same time. I'm not „physically“ playing. Every play or game takes place in my head :) When I'm at home I'm really silent, calm. I read a lot. On the other hand, I have five siblings, two of them are 4 years old so when I'm with them I take control of the situation and I need to fully adapt to their world. And that's the thing I love. To alter myself into a small child.

What other hobbies do you have?

I really love visual art such as paintings, theatre or film, in my free time you can find me in one of the cinemas or galleries for sure. I think I'm a little observer. I like to walk around the town, the forest and look and listen to things around me, which surround me. I can be easily fascinated by almost everything. I also write a lot... notes, blog, screens, radio plays, fiction stories...

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

I could never imagine myself entering to any career hunt and choose a serious and practical job :) My first steps after finishing the high school led to the Faculty of Science where I studied Biology with focus on Botany. But to my disappointment, things turned about genetics and molecular level of things, not about walking in the forests as I naively imagined :) So as soon as I got my university degree, I decided to study more and again and I chose education that time. Obviously, being a teacher is a part of my lazy easy going lifestyle which helps me to stay happy and relaxed :) I never cared about any competitions, I did not join any races, I did not like showing off or comparing with others and I don't like any pressure :) I am happy with what I know, what I can do, I do not have this inner need to prove big things to other people. I also do not have high standards and high expectations, I am happy with my small life, doing small things which make me happy :)

Why Kindergarten?

Because it is close :) I am living next doors, maybe if there would be a senior club on the same address, I would be working with seniors right now :)

What was your best day in the Kindergarten?

I love the moments when I realize our children grew and can do something new. As I am with the Hippos since the Castle room, it was great to see how the children after first noises and one or two word sentences turned into real and proper talking :) Then the Hippos grew again and progressed with drawing skills. I really love the way of how the children see and understand the world and how they show us their perception of the world through the pictures. Another step that Hippos made within these four years is that they grew into big philosophers :) They are in this lovely stage of thinking about things and reasoning and it surprises me a lot how smart small people they are :) These changes really can make my day. All the things only children can see and only children can say are an everyday bonus for all the kindergarten teachers :)

Do you play at home?

I still play adult games with my friends on weekend trips. We prepare treasure hunts for each other, we play various logical and word skills games, board games, etc. But these are occasional situations reserved mostly for the weekends. On every day bases, I play less than in the past because my son grew and he prefers to visit and play with his friends. We still read a lot together and play board games, card games or do crafts for Bdays but most of the time, he plays somewhere else with somebody else :) Of course, I needed some time to go through this change and accept my son is growing and he does not need me so much as when he was a toddler. On the other side, it is quite relaxing and very refreshing to come home after a day spent in the kindergarten and not to have another kindergarten at home :)

What other hobbies do you have?

In my free time, you would not find me at home doing some quiet lazy indoor activities :) Walking in the forests around Bratislava, going for mountain hiking trips in Slovakia sleeping in old shepherds houses, dormitories in the mountains or sleeping under the stars are my favourite activities – with my friends and with my family, too. I also like running and I was working as yoga instructor, too. Right now I am in love with Ashtanga yoga :) I also am a book worm but do not borrow me a book – it takes me ages to finish it because I usually read lots of books in the same time :)



Hana Velánová



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We've been busy with...

Beside all of that, we talked and learned also about lots of other things... for example... **History**... from all its perspectives ... history in the context of billions of years of Earth formation and transformations... history in the context of life origins, evolution and most popular Earth inhabitants - Dinosaurs :)... history in the context of human ages, time periods and civilisations... history in the context of facts, inventions, believes... history in the context of the things we used to use in the past and how they differed from recent every day items... You can imagine it was a very dangerous, but definitely an interesting and valuable journey! :)



... and also, we talked about **Communication**, for instance... :)

As this topic is in general very wide and covers plenty of areas including rules, means, forms, kinds and levels, we mostly chose only a part of it... We even learned other languages... Do you know how to say simple words, colours, family members e.g. in a sign language? No? So ask your children!). That's what we learned during workshop with Mr. Michal who suffered from a hearing disability and came to share with us his "communication perspectives"...

At this moment we are awaiting quite a lot of big events in the forthcoming months... :) Please, take a short look and make sure you reserve a term in your diary :) Of course, we will keep you informed and provide you with details on time...



Gardening workshop

APRIL 2015

GAJOVA: FRIDAY, 17.4.2015

ÚPRKOVA: TUESDAY, 14.4.2015

Mother's Day

MAY 2015

GAJOVA: WEDNESDAY, 13.5.2015

ÚPRKOVA: THURSDAY, 14.5.2015

Father's Day

JUNE 2015

GAJOVA: THURSDAY, 11.6.2015

ÚPRKOVA: WEDNESDAY, 10.6.2015



SUMMER "CAMP"

JUNE 2015 - ONLY Y1 CLASSES!!!

GAJOVA & ÚPRKOVA: 24.6.-26.6.2015



Graduation

JUNE 2015 - ONLY Y1 CLASSES!!!

GAJOVA: THURSDAY, 4.6.2015

ÚPRKOVA: THURSDAY, 18.6.2015



Upcoming events..