

KINDERGARTEN NEWSLETTER

JUNE 2016



In June we are usually quite busy with activities and events that remind us of the end of school year and the start of the holiday season. However, in June we definitely could not forget to celebrate Father's day. We dedicated a special day to this big celebration honouring fathers and their everyday contribution to children's lives. When you start saying MY DADDY you usually hear my hero, my best friend, my strong and tough man that means the world to me! We know it and it is what we used as inspiration for our Father's day event. All our daddies left their suits at home to make space for comfortable sporty clothes, jeans and check shirts. Do you know why this dress code? Well, most of you already found out ☺. Even though every Father's day programme starts with cool music, songs and rhythm prepared by all classes, it continues with a wide range of challenging tasks ☺.

HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH... FATHER'S DAY

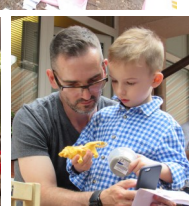


Every year our children work hard to prepare some surprise presents for daddies, as well. Presents are always a very big part of Father's day and it was not different this year. We put all our heads together to come up with something beautiful, handy and creative in one.

Dads of Crickets, Whales and Hippos are very fashionable now in their new "I love U dad" T-shirts, Bow ties and Ties. Maybe daddies of Butterflies and Donkeys will enjoy cooking more since they have got their very own spice jars with various seasonings inside. The Elephants painted a picture on a canvas that will decorate a wall in the house. Ladybugs' dads have a brand new key chain for their keys and Dragonflies decided that there is never enough jute-string decorated glasses for a good drink ☺. Our smallest Beavers made sure that daddies' cars will smell amazingly by creating Car Air Freshener in a shape of tie and Zebras understand how stressful a hard work can be so they made Anti-stress toys. Everything made by children and most of all with true love!



In Gajova we organized the "Tough Man Day" in which we challenged our dads to prove how strong and brave they are. Not only did they have to build a sandcastle, a house of cards or play football, but also carry their children through an obstacle course or tie knots. In Úprkova we traditionally used nearby Horský park so the first challenge came as usual with reading a map ☺. Yes, every year proves that passing through checkpoints in correct order is the hardest challenge of all ☺. Nonetheless our daddies successfully travelled "Around the World" to catch a bull in Spain, play football in Brazil, taste Indian spices, race a car in Italy, dance Kazachok in Russia, box in Ukraine and much more. All this to get points to win a toy and spend time with their beloved children! What else could be more than that? We are sure that nothing but a tasty beer and barbecue in the garden at both locations were definitely well earned rewards for daddies, as well. Great day, great event and we had a great time with all of you! We are already looking forward to next year.



WE SPY... WHAT WOULD YOUR DADDY DO IF...



...he got stopped by the police?

Benny M. (Whales): He stop! He'd something do... He say "Stop chasing!"
Teo (Dragonflies): My daddy never ever stop police because it was still going nice, never ever.



...you got lost while going on a trip?

Tia (Donkeys): My daddy will find me in the forest.
Katka (Crickets): He need to shout - Where are you?!
Saška (Beavers): I can go to my daddy.

...he had to cook a dinner?

Terezka B. (Dragonflies): When my daddy is cooking it nikdy nedopadne dobre ☺.

Sárka (Hippos): He could go with Stellka everything do. He could take her... put on the T-shirt, trousers and we could go to some shop. And then we could cook dinner... Pizza!

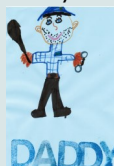


...you got hurt?

Tamarka (Elephants): When it's big he will call 112 and when it just small he can použiť myši chvost.

Benji H. (Whales): Go to doctor! Or put on the plaster.

Zuzka (Dragonflies): My daddy will call my mummy she knows how to do.



...his car broke down on the road?

Nico (Zebras): He will buy another car.

Sonička (Ladybugs): He would put it somewhere where the other cars can't go.

ZEBRAS ART PROJECT

Zebras read a book written by Eric Carle Pappa, Please Get the Moon for Me. They discussed what are their dads willing to do for them... besides getting the moon the most frequented ideas had something to do with throwing and water! ☺ Afterwards they realise they would love to get the moon for their Pappas, too and so we set to create an amazing craft... It took us three whole days! But isn't it awesome?





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WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH... GRADUATIONS

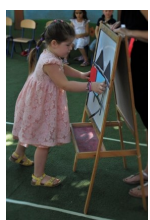
UPRKOVA

Graduation in Uprkova had a lot of little performers. Dragonflies and Ladybugs decided to join together for this important event in their lives and we really enjoyed one big performance. What did we decide to do? All practicing lead to one amazing programme with the title – "The Story of Our Lives". Why? Because Kindergarten plays a big role in children's lives. We, the teachers, wanted them to go one more time through all months or years they have spent here and revise all memorable moments. You could see children singing songs, reciting poems or dancing little choreographies. All of this to remember all fun and struggles when learning letters, math, when solving logical games or little conflicts, when learning how important it is to say sorry or thank you. A big part of the performance was also its international part. Children learnt songs and poems in languages from countries where their classmates come from. Therefore the performance took us to near countries like Ukraine, Poland, Italy, Spain, Ireland but even to some really far ones like Korea or Australia. Believe us, it was tricky to go through all foreign words and handle the pronunciation but seeing the pride in children's eyes when performing was the most rewarding moment for all of us. Our children are growing up into big schoolers and in one moment we have to say farewell to all of them and let them follow a new story of their life. Well, time flies, but what you can be sure about, we will never forget and we will always miss our little Ladybugs and Dragonflies so much!



GAJOVA

At the end of Y1, it is time for the children to say bye-bye to the Kindergarten times and to prove the children are big, smart and ready to go to school. In a chronological way, the Y1 Hippos tried to remember how it was when they first came to the Kindergarten and they showed their parents how much they have changed since they first came here. Every year, in every classroom, the children learnt something new about themselves, they got new friends or improved their skills. At the beginning of the show (in the Castle Room part), we focused on all the diversity international kindergarten brings us. In the Boat Room, the Hippos discovered the first friendships. In our graduation programme, the children learnt short poems about their friends and they performed a short dance about how we help each other. When the children came to the train room, they made big progress in their ABC skills. Recognizing, reading and writing the letters was a big challenge of these times and for our graduation, we undertook one more challenge – to rap the graduation alphabet on Eminem's Lose Yourself song. The Plane Room and mathematic skills improvement was the next step in our preschool career. And finally the Submarine Room brought us lots of topics to be thinking about. How will it be at school – rushing in the mornings to be on time, lots of learning, writing and reading? Or will we have some fun as well? We showed these worries and hopes in two short dances and, of course, we came to a decision that with our friends and the new friends we will find at new schools, life will be easier. ☺ And one more time we revised all these changes and growing step-by-step in the final song Once I Was Two Years Old ☺ Together with the beautiful decorations and drawings prepared by children themselves, it was a great and impressive performance. For sure, the Hippos deserved to get the graduation hats and books by the end of the show. Good job, we are very proud of you Hippos!



WE SPY... WHAT WILL YOU MISS ABOUT THE KG?

Sonička (Ladybugs): My friends and reading the books.

Marco (Hippos): Teachers and kids... because we will not be together.

Teo (Dragonflies): This classroom and this all.

Taeyoon (Ladybugs): Playing with my friends and doing some craft with Ms. Sabina.

Sofi (Hippos): I'm gonna miss my friends and teachers.

Ollie (Ladybugs): I would miss the teachers, even Ms. Vava ☺.

Saim (Dragonflies): I will never forget my friends and they will be in my heart!

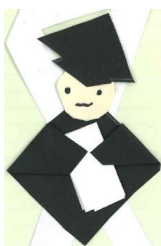
Terezka (Hippos): Also teachers and the kids because they are my best friends. And I like teachers because they did teach me lots of new things that I didn't still know.

Lilly (Dragonflies): I will miss everybody in this school.

Tal (Hippos): The teachers and all the kindergarten and... because the teachers were learning us lots of things.

Isa (Dragonflies): I will miss nap time.

Anton (Dragonflies): Everything, I will miss everything.



Veve (Hippos): I'll miss everybody. Even the whole building... because it's so pretty and I like it.

Mia (Dragonflies): I will miss all my teachers and my friends.

Zoé (Ladybugs): All the teachers and my friends and hugging with the teachers.

Stelka (Hippos): Because I like teachers... they are good and I cannot see them anymore. And I'll miss whole the kindergarten because also Donkeys are my friends.

Oli (Hippos): Mixed-up day... because I like it.

Kajka (Ladybugs): Sleeping, my teachers and Marcus.

Laia (Dragonflies): I will miss all of this school.

Mimi (Hippos): I'm gonna miss whole kindergarten because I'm going to Paris.

Zuzka (Dragonflies): I will miss my friends and I will miss playing with them.

Andy (Hippos): I will miss the whole kindergarten... even all the kids... even all teachers... even the building.



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WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH...

KIDS' DAY

The International Children's Day (MDD as we used to call it ☺) is long awaited feast in our kindergarten. Luckily we didn't have to wait for long – it's the very first of June. It's a day when fun in all forms should be allowed and when we all should enjoy all the advantages childhood offers. Some things don't change and it's good that way. For example, we've noticed that both at Uprkova and Gajova the most favourite checkpoints to visit are... Wait a minute, why not to guess? Turn away from the screen (or paper maybe) for a few seconds, and put yourself to your child's shoes. What would be the most exciting for you? OK, you tried or not, but here are the answers. Our kids love these three things the most with no doubts: 1. Jumping castle (number one by youngest as well as oldest); 2. Cotton candy or Candy floss (most probably because it's huge and light, and it gives you great fun watching it grow in front of your eyes as the candy-man is spinning it in his machine); 3. Face-painting (which is not necessarily loved by everyone but there is always the longest cue and you can hardly ever find our children to wait so patiently). Not that there're not other things to do – there is plenty: apart from jumping in the castle you can dare to jump with your friend with legs tied together, there's always a crazy dancing corner, throwing or carrying all sorts of tricky things, drawing on the pavements with huge chalks and, oh, how could we omit this one? – balloons, of course. Being able to choose from so many forms and colours – that's something! And if the balloon-maker is skilled (which we are ☺), it's like magic how the piece of soft rubber is moving, changing and growing to its final form in the fingers. So, it's four favourite activities after all. Happy kids' day to all, hurray, hurray, hurray!



TEACHERS INQUIRY...

WHAT DID YOU LIKE TO DO/PLAY WITH AS A CHILD?



NIKA: With all the toys which were my sister's favourite. She'd hide them so I searched her room whenever she wasn't at home.



ALI: I loved to play with my dolls and doll house. We were also making clothes with my sister for our dolls from our mum's tights and socks. She really "loved it" because we were always taking the new flowery ones.

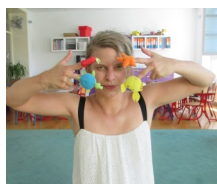
LUCKA: Every weekend and holidays I spent with my sister at my grandparents. We had a lot of friends there, we played outside and we only came home to sleep ☺. Btw I not only looked like a boy I also loved playing with them hockey, shooting games and hide & seek.



SILVIA: I loved to cook! I took some water, some old cheap spices, coffee and things like this and I cooked.



HANKA: I and my brother spent a lot of time in the woods and we built our own village from wood and branches. It always had five houses, a small square and a speaker stand for the mayor of the village (either me or my brother).



TÁŇA: I loved to play in the river. Observing dragonflies and crabs, floundering through river stream in my rain boots, jumping on small islands with trees and pretending it's my own land! Wreathing flower crowns and letting the river to carry them to Australia!



LADYBUGS CLASS PROJECT

After Father's day we decided, together with our Ladybugs, to participate in a special project. Each morning we prepared colourful pieces of paper and we made pairs of Ladybugs. Each pair would have the same colour and their task was to do everything together - play, walk up and down the stairs, help each other with anything they needed. They basically looked and cared for each other. ☺ And we can see now how the relationships between our Ladybugs have improved, they are more friendly to each other, they make new friends and enjoy playing even with kids they didn't play with before. So thumbs up to the new projects ☺.





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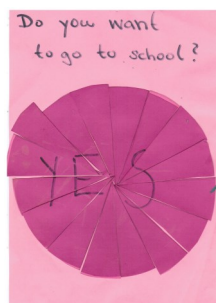
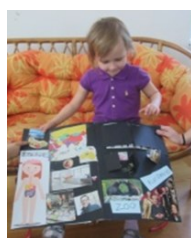
SCHOOL EXCURSION

When comparing the differences between school and kindergarten our children from Uprkova went for the excursion to CIS. They could enter into all classrooms and offices and you can be sure they searched for all hidden and secret places and rooms ☺. The biggest impression on our children left the library, playroom, laboratory, computer room and definitely the gym! Last but not least we were all amazed by school projects and classroom decorations that students created themselves. It was so much fun to explore the school ground!



ELEPHANTS – FAMILY PROJECT

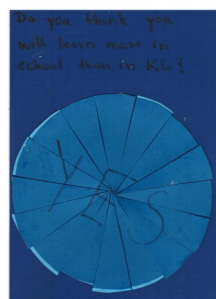
The Elephants dedicated one day to undertake their family projects and presentation. The topic of the projects was My Dream School. It was incredible to see how creative the Elephants and their parents were! Most of all - their presentation skills were amazing! Their teachers were really proud and pleased to find out that they became an important part of their dream schools, as well ☺. Good job Elephants!



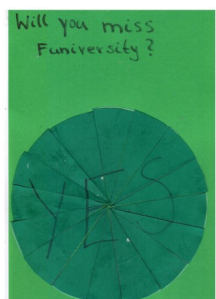
Do you want to go to school?



Are you afraid of school?



Will you learn more in school than in KG?



Will you miss Funiversity?

GRAPHS BY HIPPOS

Our little Hippos grew up a bit (and they keep growing sooo fast...) and soon they will turn into schoolers. Their teachers took the opportunity to teach them the principles of collecting data and creating graphs, and investigating what they actually think about the school... all at the same time! Let's check if they even want to go to school. Or if and how many are scared of it? The questions were not difficult but open a lot of different topics to some interesting discussions about their school times...

SCHOOL VS KINDERGARTEN

MIXED UP DAY

What happens if you mix the teachers and let the children try out new teachers in the classroom? Well, we also wanted to find out, so we "celebrated" the Mixed Up Day. It is hard to say who was more confused - kids or teachers, but we enjoyed it! Children from Y1 classes had a tendency to correct teachers and tell them how and what to do all the time! Our little ones were so surprised that all they did was following and nicely listening. It was really an experience for all of us but needless to say in the end we were all happy to be in our normal routine ☺. What children thought of this mixed up day, you can find out from our interviews.



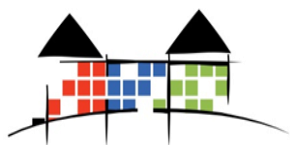
Stelka (Elephants): *Who were your teachers during the Mixed up day?* Ms. Katka and Ms. Keri and Ms. Majka. *What was this day about?* To try new teachers. *What did your new teachers do differently?* Some worksheet and some play and we did go outside and that in the afternoon we didn't more but we did do it in Butterfly classroom. *What did you like the most?* Everything.

Noáško (Crickets): *Who were your teachers during the Mixed up day?* Ms. Ludka, Ms. Sabina, Ms. Jude. *What was this day about?* That we have new teachers. *What did your new teachers do differently?* Not different it was the same. *What did you like the most?* Everything and eat apple.

BYE-BYE PARTY

Bye-bye parties in general can be sometimes sad. However, our farewell party with Y1 children was full of fun. We all met outside and standing in a big circle and holding hands we wished each other good luck. We sang songs, gave hugs and danced as long as the music played ☺. In Uprkova our Reception classes wanted their friends to remember the time spent together so they created colourful handmade bookmarks as presents. Of course, there is no need to mention, that some goodies prepared on plates were really popular ☺. We had a wonderful time together!



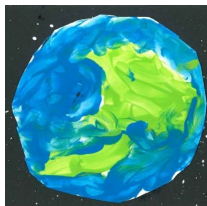


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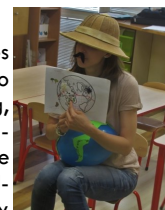
WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH...



TRAVELLING AROUND THE

AROUND THE WORLD IN 5 DAYS

Do you know Phileas Fogg? The English gentleman, created by Jules Verne, who managed to travel around the world in 80 days, when no one believed it would be possible? Believe it or not, it was this Mr Fogg, who visited our kindergarten one day, told us about his wonderful adventures and inspired us to do the same (or very similar ☺) thing! So we all set off for this amazing journey 'around the world' ☺. And what adventures did we experience? While crossing Europe we stopped in Italy and helped an Italian chef make the best pizza ever! Of course we had to make sure to use only proper pizza ingredients. In Africa we got a chance to learn some African rhythms on bongo drums. We all love percussion instruments so we absolutely enjoyed it. When we got to Asia, all we could see was rice, rice, rice and one Chinese lady ☺. She wanted to show us some things that symbolized Asia, but we had to find them in those heaps of rice. And do you know what we found? Chopsticks, a tiger, a panda bear, a hand fan and lots of other things. In Australia we met a real mummy kangaroo with a baby in her pouch. It was the baby's birthday, so we helped them invite all their friends to its birthday party. Of course, we had to hop in jumping bags to look like kangaroos too ☺. Finally we got to America and met a pretty Indian girl who taught us how to catch wild horses with a lasso. We caught sooo many of them, now we have to look after them in the kindergarten ☺. Never mind, we loved our journey around the world (by the way, it took us less than 80 minutes ☺), but we are happy to be back in our lovely kindergarten again ☺.



TEACHERS INQUIRY...

WHERE WOULD YOU LIKE TO LIVE IF IT WASN'T HERE?



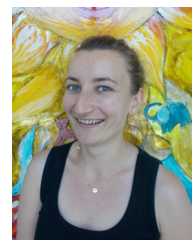
LUCKA: After living in a few different countries I always realize that staying anywhere is great for some time but if you find a country where people are always nice to each other let me know, I will move there and never come back again ☺



JUDE: I would like to live in Sydney, Australia for maybe 1 or 2 years.



FEATURES...



SABINA SKALA

Another issue of the newsletter brings you another of our teachers. Sabina comes from Poland and she settled down in the class of Ladybugs (Y1) at Uprkova. If you are eager to know her a tiny bit better, let's read how she answered our questions.

Why did you decide to become a teacher?

Because I love to teach, be around children and learn from others. Interacting with kids is great. I am particularly excited to see the glow on the students' faces when they accomplish even the smallest task. I feel inspired and motivated to come to work every day.

What do you do in your free time?

I like to spend time with my family and my friends. I have a son Joe- 4 years old, and I really enjoy talking to him, reading, playing and travelling.

What questions you don't like to be asked?

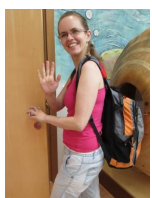
I do not like to be asked about political situation.



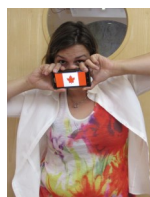
KATKA: I would take my beloved ones and fly to the moon. There must be awesome silence and stunning view. ☺



DANKA: I have always wanted to live somewhere North - Norway, Sweden or maybe Canada but winters are dark there, so I would probably stay in my "winter house" somewhere in the south for a while.



IVET: Amsterdam, The Netherlands! Cycling every day and everywhere... even the typical Dutch weather cannot put me off! And maybe I would finally master the language.

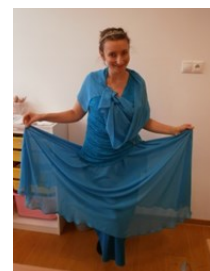


PEŤA: I know this for sure! Lake Louise, Alberta, Canada. Mountains, skiing, climbing, sport... fun!

VAVA: Switzerland! My beloved Switzerland, somewhere around Lausanne and Geneva lake next to the vineyards.



BOGI: If it wasn't here I wouldn't want to live in one particular place. In that case I would love to travel a lot and not to stay in one spot for a long time.





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EXTRACURRICULAR ACTIVITIES... ART CLUB



We are fans of art clubs. Probably there are many teachers that would love to lead them, but only a few are the lucky ones. ☺ But most importantly - most of the kids love them, too. No wonder - they can get dirty, they can do it the way they please, and the outcome is something what they can see growing under their hands which is highly motivating. At Funiversity, Ms Ivetka, Ms Nikol, Ms Ludka, Ms Majka B. are our "artists" this year. They all have their own styles and approaches which they often combine and alternate, getting the inspirations from each other but also worldwide.



Did you ever open a web-site searching for art & craft ideas? It's impossible to choose. There are millions and millions of excellent tips which you'd love to test yourself (if having a chance of "nothing-to-do-day"). The great thing about them is you often don't even need any fancy material. There is lots of use, reuse, recycle or just combine the usual tools with usual techniques in an unusual way. The best you can do at the art club is not to expect a certain result, so the kids stay as free as they can and they can enjoy the creative process. Miss Ivetka, for example, teaches the children on her club that "the others don't need to like your picture, the only thing that matters is whether YOU like it". Isn't that what should count? Maybe we all should attend some kind of art club to learn to appreciate our own work and care less about other people's opinion. ☺



YOU MIGHT BE INTERESTED IN... TENNIS

Tennis is becoming more and more popular. In our KG we are fans of tennis, too. Now, when our older kids are starting tennis course soon, let's have a closer look at what it is all about.

Tennis is a year-round sport. It can be played both in summer on tennis courts, but also in gyms, sheltered or air halls in winter. There are several surfaces tennis could be trained on: clay, wooden floor or other special surfaces.

Why tennis is good for you (or your child ☺)?

- It strengthens muscles of whole body, improves overall physical condition and is safe for "weekend sportsmen", too.
- It develops concentration and ability of tactical thinking
- It teaches self-control. It is a competitive sport that gives you chance to cope with your emotions and stress (which is perfectly usable in real life, too).

The movements when playing tennis are very short and fast, plus brief breaks when waiting for the ball from your opponent. This helps the muscles to use oxygen in a very effective way. Thanks to need for quick reactions, the brain is being challenged. The brain has to decide (in a very short moment) in which moment to hit the ball and where to send it in order to be missed by the opponent. The strategy is crucial in tennis, it's a game of angles, geometry and physic.

When to start playing tennis?

The most of professionals recommend the age of 5-6 for a start of regular sport build-up. The children have developed their body parts perception, as well as coordination of movements by this time. They are able to learn tennis strokes which are operations that are more difficult for coordination. In this age it is advisable to start the regular trainings.

Nevertheless, this doesn't mean that a child cannot begin with training before or after reaching this age. Younger kids can meet the tennis - a tennis racket and a ball. They use foam and colourful balls. Kids usually train in the groups of 4-5, where lots of games and competitions are provided, developing competitiveness which tends to be natural feature not only in this age. Kids are supposed to gain as much motional experience as possible: running, throwing, catching, striking, aiming.

The key goal during the initial period is to achieve that a child likes going to trainings, he/she is interested and enjoys the lessons, and gradually gets used to regularity, following rules and responsibility.

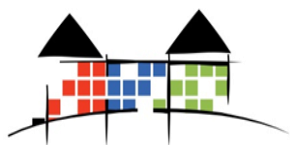
In the age of 7 the children can participate first matches and tournaments within up-to-8, or up-to-10 age category. The first-rate and always remind-ed principle is: a child should play with joy, without stressful situations and never should be put under pressure for winning by the parents.

Considering the age, many kids who started playing tennis at the age of 10-12 years and learnt its basics, enjoy playing tennis, too.

How much and how often to train?

- In younger age (5-6 years) it is recommended to begin training in a small group one hour at least twice a week, in a playful mode.
- Gradually, after gaining the basic habits and building a positive relationship towards tennis, the number of trainings per week could be raised while the number of kids in a group can be decreased.
- Individual training is important, too, especially at time when stroke technique needs to be refined.





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JUNE NEWS...



After long time we had to say bye - bye to Ms. Paťa. We would like to say many thanks for her good job with children and we wish her all the best on any path she chose to walk... ☺
We will introduce you the new instructor at the beginning of the school year.



Mrs. Lenka, our speech therapist, has left. You might have noticed her belly got bigger and bigger... yeah, another baby about to join our Funiversity clan. In the beginning of June we threw Mrs. Lenka a bye-bye party and now we are curiously awaiting some amazing news!

The new speech therapist will start at the beginning of new school year. More information to come in September.

UPCOMING EVENTS...



...clubs & extra clubs are cancelled...
...swimming as well as speech lessons will be rescheduled...
...program will be generally more relaxing...

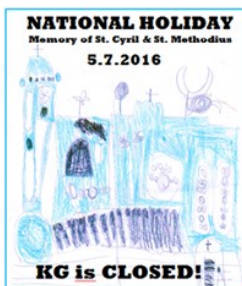
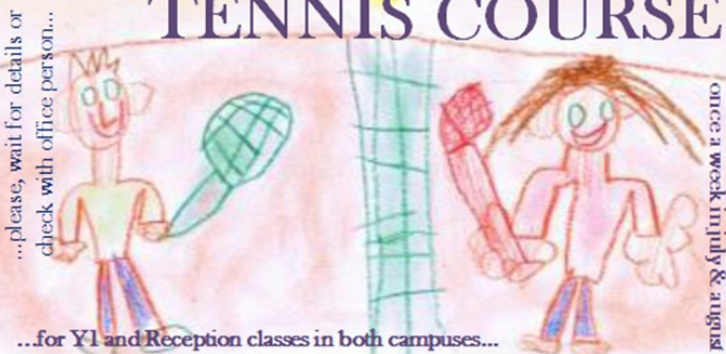


SUMMER SLEEPOVER CAMP



summer 2016

TENNIS COURSE



WELCOME BACK TO SCHOOL



We start the new academic year on 5 September 2016.