



Dear parents! Welcome to our June newsletter! Wait, is it June already? Yes...it really is...that you cannot believe? Well, we cannot believe as well ③. Another school year has successfully passed. It went by super fast! In June, we somehow always realize how time flies. Nonetheless, we tried to enjoy this month as much as possible having all our events for you, celebrations for us and goodbyes for some of our friends. Take a moment and read about our incredible journey in the month of June.



#### HIGHLIGHT OF THE MONTH...

### FATHER'S DAY

On Father's day in Úprkova we measured all kinds of qualities and skills of our daddies. Well, what else could we do to find out which auglities of the wellknown agent 007 are hiding in our dads? We are happy to state that as James Bond has never failed to amaze his audience, also our dads amazed all of us ©. All our Bond dads had to pass the test of bravery, test their reflexes, show strength, endurance and wisdom in various tasks, mix own tasty cocktails or prepare yummy food, and show many other life skill (it is not always easy to tie a tie, right? ©). We found out our daddies, thanks to their little helpers, were able to succeed at all missions without harm ©! That is why they were all rewarded with beautiful handmade presents. So today, the daddies of Koalas and Butterflies have great picture frames, tea/coffee mugs went for our daddies of Hamsters, handy holders pleased dads of Crickets and huge beer mugs for all fathers from Ele-



















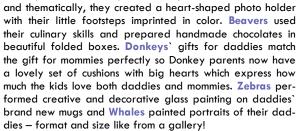
In Gajova, this year's Father's Day was inspired by the theme of universe and space. Stars, comets, space rockets, space boots... Gajova garden became a magical and diverse place — just like the universe - and we all enjoyed a fun and lovely afternoon! Children have also very much enjoyed preparing the gifts for daddies. Lions' slogan was: "Daddy, I will follow your footsteps"









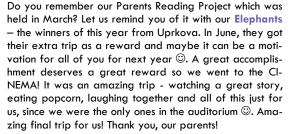






We sincerely welcomed daddies and family members and the checkpoints have tested the knowledge in quizzes and magnet labyrinths, manual and accuracy skills in craft corners as well as dancing, hula hoop and hips moving tasks. And we can surely say that daddies in Gajova proved to be the heroes, best friends, helpers, navigators...and most of all loving daddies who spent good quality time with the kids. We hope the photos which you took the in the breathtaking photo shoot corner will remind you of this nice time we had together.













### VE BEEN BUSY WITH...



International Children's day - a date dedicated to raising awareness about children's rights and well -being! Our children are our treasure and what other day could be better to give them a unique celebration. Plus, it is not a secret that there is always a child in all of us,

so why not to enjoy a day when fun in all forms should be allowed for everybody. We kicked things off at the beginning of June with this special day. How was it? Well, the children had a wonderful time... eating cotton candy and other snacks (or rather getting sticky and full (2) trying to get balloons (or trying not to lose them), playing sports (or just running around crazily), having their faces painted, doing crafts, or simply dancing and bouncing in the castle. We all loved it because we just simply did what all children love the most... and the weather was amazing too! Great and successful day! Happy Children's day!

#### CHILDREN'S DAY













Adriana (Hamsters):

Yogurt in some sausage. I

Nikolka (Whales): Hair-

band has a bad smell.

don't like it.

#### MIXFD-LID DAY



Do not worry! We didn't make any mess in our Kindergarten, we didn't mix our children and we definitely did not turn everything upside down...we only wanted our children to see how great all our teachers can be ©. So one, otherwise ordinary day, all our classes in both locations got new teacher teams. We had fun together, you could hear laughter when going through some silly moments and mixing up names or creating and playing new games. This day was definitely a new experience and gave us a bigger appreciation for our colleagues' work ©. Let's say it was worth it. But honestly...we were all happy to be back in our own classes ©.

## WHAT IS THE WORST SMELL IN THE WORLD?



Pat'ka (Donkeys): Peepee. And glue! And from the scones. What is a scone? Like trash, like garbage smell.



Matúško (Zebras): The horrible sock,



hahaha. Or when you are farting.



Terezka (Elephants): I know...Prd.



Nelka (Elephants): Cigarettes

Lili (Donkeys): On some toilet.

### CLASS PROJECTS



The Koalas focused on a team work while talking about prosocial awareness and cooperation. They sat together and created this wonderful snake. Who wouldn't like it, right?

The Zebras exercised their figureground perception in a very fun way. First they scribbled on a piece of a paper, then they looked for familiar obects hiding in those lines. Plenty of balloons, some cars, castles, sharks or whales... What would you find?





Jožko

(Zebras):

it's yucky.

think... When

you put your

finger to your

mouth and you

smell it, then

The **Elephants** had a special visit. Helenka's aunt flew all the way from the United States to visit her family. And since she has also been a teacher for many years, she really wanted to join us for one short afternoon. She came to read a story to our Elephants. Thank you very much!

Everyone knows that children are meant to play... anytime, anywhere, with anything. The Hamsters took their play to a new level. They ditched the store-bought toys for a while and created their very own play dolls out of the wooden spoons and different craft materials.. You should have seen how creative they got. Later, they used their dolls to act out a performance - like real puppet masters.





#### WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH...

#### GRADUATIONS



The end of the school year marks a time when we have to say goodbye to our little graduates. This year we are waving farewell to Whales, Butterflies, and Elephants. They are finally ready for school and we are so happy for them to get to this stage. Some of them were in our kindergarten since little toddlers and the challenges they had to overcome were like climbing the mountains. Surely, it was not easy to climb those hills, but they worked really hard and didn't give up.











Letting children go to school after spending 3 years with them is always a bittersweet feeling! You feel proud, you feel satisfaction and you cannot believe the years have gone by so quickly! Watching their growth and development throughout the years make you feel fulfilled. Then comes the moment when you have to say goodbye and you are left with amazing memories. The Graduation Party is the moment when you see the journey you have done together! The journey of the Elephant class was performed by all 20 great Elephants who nailed it! The amount of lyrics, choreographies and poems they were able to learn in record time was incredible. It really was a fun celebration of our wonderful years together! What was our performance about? Based on the motto: "Before I go I want to show, what I have learnt since I was small" children performed poems about each other, showed how great and smart friends they have become and how good friendship never ends! They sang and danced to show their knowledge of ABC, Math, science or art and demonstrated couple of games and dances traditional for countries they all come from! No dry eyes in the house but we all know well: "Goodbyes are not forever, goodbyes are not the end, they simply mean I will miss you until we meet again!" Love you, Elephants!

In our other Year 1 class, we followed a story about how small caterpillars became beautiful **Butterflies**. They symbolically needed to go through four seasons until their reached their goal. Children presented that during their time in the kindergarten they not only played a lot, but also gained knowledge in Math, English, Art, they learnt the rules, manners and social skills. Kids showed what a good memory they have - reciting plentiful poems and singing quite a few popular songs, too! (The songs were modified to the purposes of the story J). The performance had a positive response, and we dare to say it was a success. Both, parents and the Butterflies teachers were so very proud!!













Our Whales were also excited to show everything they learnt throughout all years in their graduation performance. They made huge effort to memorize all the poems, songs and dance routines and the result was simply spectacular  $\odot$ . Parents were greeted in eight different languages. As impressive as it sounds, that was just the beginning. They took us on amazing journey full of obstacles showing off their social skills and good manners, demonstrating how important it is to say sorry and appreciate your friends. Climbing ABC hill was not easy at first, but now they are so glad they can read. To showed us what they learnt about science - they pretended to be atoms and molecules. They even took us up to space to visit planets we never knew existed ©. Sport hill was easy for some, little bit less for others but they all enjoyed it and were happy to jump, dance and strike poses for their parents. Of course, they did not forget about the math hill. Maybe the most challenging from them all. They presented it in style. It was so funny to watch them having a friendly battle, raping to Run D.M.C. song about how much they like math. We even believed them ©. These kids certainly learnt a lot and proved to us all that they've got what it takes to climb those hills. But the most important thing they learnt... "It's not about how fast you get there. It's not about what's waiting on the other side. It's the climb!"

You know now very well how busy our Y1 classes were with their Graduation party and performance, meanwhile we let our younger friends from other classes feel the Graduation spirit as well! Of course, they wished us good luck but mostly they took care of the catering. We really enjoyed all yummy spreads, fruit skewers, cakes and finger food. Thank you very much!







Our graduates prepared their own tableaus which they presented in their classrooms. The Whales displayed theirs in U Kubistu café - go and have a look if you are nearby.



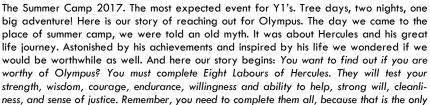




#### **WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH...**

#### **SLEED-OVER CAMP FOR Y1 CLASSES**









way to get through the gates of Olympus. Thrilled by this opportunity we prepared ourselves for The First Labour. Not waiting any longer, we conquered the Strength. Heavy logs and giant stones (reality: 1kg barbells) moved to the distance thanks to our strength and motivation. But the day wasn't over, at all. Second Labour of Strong Will was already there, waiting for us. Twenty squats... no more... no less. Combination of will and power... Together as one we were counting and squatting until the last squat was done. Nobody gave up and that was how we conquered the second task. Exhausted after our great effort, we were relaxing on a beautiful meadow, when there came the Third Labour of Justice. This time it wasn't about the muscles, it was about our brains. We got a parchment with a secret message encoded into a crossword. Only bright minds could find out the answer. We put heads together and came out with the result – BE FAIR. To prove we understood this term, all of us created a short story with an example of being fair to each other. As well-behaved kids, we passed this moral test with ease. Satisfied by our achievements we gave ourselves a break, went for dinner; cleaned our rooms, and visited our friends. In the evening we held a dancing party. We were about to start when we were announced it was a time for The Fourth Labour of Wisdom. Questions from music, art, literature, science, math, and politics had to be answered correctly. Our bright minds helped us one more



time and we overcame also this obstacle on our way to Olympus. Passing this test, there was no other thing to stop us from having the party and fun until dusk. With sunset the sky was getting orange and forest got dark. The perfect place for the new task. The Fifth Labour of Courage. This time we had to search the dark forest for five lost spirits and return them to Olympus. Flashlights in our hands and bravery in our hearts - that was all we had. Step by step, branch by branch, and trunk by trunk... all together we were marching through the scary forest searching for invisible spirits. The silence was creeping into our minds when suddenly, BANG, we heard the first spirit; BANG - and another one, BANG... BANG and at last.... BANG. We heard all five spirits, caught them by saying magical words and sent them back to Olympus with a fire ritual. By this we completed all tasks for the first day. Exhausted we came to our rooms, had shower and an obligatory check-up for ticks ©, got into pyjamas and went to beds. No surprise, everybody fell asleep with the first touch of the cosy bedsheets and slept without a single move until sunrise. In the morning we were ready and determined to get closer to



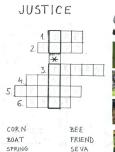


Olympus. It was a nice hot and sunny day - perfect for swimming. There was no surprise The Sixth Labour of Help took place in the swimming pool. Our challenge was to swim the given distance and help by cheering up all our friends. Everybody must have swum the distance, and so it was, together we overcame another task. After finishing we had time to have fun and deserved relax. Playing, splashing, diving, swimming, jumping and just doing whatever we wanted. Sun and water were great but they made us hungry. Reeeeally hungry and so we were very happy it was the lunch time. In the afternoon we took a long walk. The observational walk and though... The Seventh Labour of Endurance. It was pretty simple... get to the Červený Kameň Castle and find objects on the list. Greater part of the walk was no challenge for most of us, but then it came. The last (steep) part, the challenge. Not giving up was our motto and repeating this in our heads we reached the summit – the castle. Happy and proud we came inside and got an unexpected reward – popsicles and drinks. A short rest with sweet reward helped us to gain some energy, so we could set for the way back. At the end of our trip we were pretty tired and kind of wanted to go to sleep. And we would go, if we didn't see the campfire. All the exhaustion was suddenly gone and we enjoyed the barbeque. Sausages, vegetable, crunchy bread, ketchup, mustard. Eating drinking, playing, running around... hanging out with friends. The perfect last evening of our adventure. Once again, the day came to an end; we quenched the fire and went to our beds. The morning of departure was the morning of accomplishing The Eight Labour of Cleanliness. We packed our clothes and toys; cleaned our rooms and left everything perfectly tidy. Completing the eight labour meant that we finished all tasks we were











given – we proved we were worthy of Olympus. Each one of us got to enter the gate and claim the symbol of Olympus – the Olympic Badge. The ceremony took place under the Castle of Smolenice, which (we must say) was really spectacular.

And this was our story of Summer

And this was our story of Summer Camp 2017. What was next? Great lunch, safe journey home and the reunion of little adventurers with their moms and dads ©.







#### BEEN BUSY WITH...

#### TRAVELLING AROUND THE WORLD



Breaking news! Young explorers from Funiversity KG travelled around the world in incredible 45 minutes time. They built Indian totems from paper rolls in America (Gajova) and had amazing balloon race in Canada (Úprkova). "Hola, Ahoj, Bonjour, Hello, ..." - Gajova researchers learnt how to greet people in different parts of Europe. Úprkova team focused more on Italy, and had lots of fun tossing a pizza (rings) on the well-known Pisa tower (cone). In Australia all the children turned into kangaroos jumping either on a bouncing ball (Úprkova) or with feet together (Gajova). In Antarctica kids

played penguin parents taking their eggs to the safety (walking with small ball between feet). We found out that children in Africa don't have as many toys as we do, so we played football with a plastic bottle instead of a ball (Úprkova). Kids from Gajova tried to hunt animals (throwing a foam stick through a ring). At last but not least, we found some peace and quiet in Asia where we practised a bit of yoga and shared bowl of rice and cup of tea. Arigató, thank you for reading about our adventurous journey. ©









## WE SPY... IF YOU HAD YOUR OWN **COUNTRY. WHAT WOULD IT BE CALLED?**



Reez-beez, haha.

Adriana (Hamsters): Matris because there is two names in spain there is Madrid and Spain so Matris.

Markus (Zebras): I don't know. Hmmmmm,

**Sofia F.** (Donkeys): Hmmm.... I will live in Spain anyway.

Panisa (Koalas) Castle because there are princess in castle.



As we pretended to travel around the world, the Beavers made themselves lovely old-fashioned suitcases it took a lot of cutting, pasting and coloring but it was worth the effort ©.

The Whales were making plans for summer holidays with their parents. They were cutting out pictures from Travel Agency catalogues and sticking them onto huge poster.



Jurko (Elephants): Sweeten like it will be namiesto rieka it will be kofolová rieka and everything make from sweet.

Nathan (Whales): Chipsy Land, hahaha.



Stellka (Zebras): Castle Stupava, I would be the queen of Castle Stupava.

Juan Pablo (Butterflies): Potato country.



Helenka (Elephants): Elephanttiormia because we are Elephant class so we can have country.

Benjamin (Whales): Jogo!

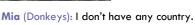


And the Zebras learnt to work with encyclopedias. They were put into groups and looked up different nations in the books. Their task was to present others what they have "read" in their encyclopedia.



know name but it will be like Austria because Austria has surprise places and it's that fun place in Austria.

Tia (Zebras): Crystal country.





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Funiversity Gajova 9 811 09 Bratislava



Ms Majka B.: Two years of holiday — travelling around the world  $\odot$ 

Ms Katka B.: Surfing in the ocean! I recently tried and got hooked up on surfing so I hope to spend some fun surfing holiday in France or Portugal this summer.



Ms Monika: Any where by the sea.

Ms Ivetka: With a book and a lot of sleep.

#### IOW DO YOUR DREAM HOLIDAYS Ms Jude: Autumn in New York. I would walk all around the city. Get the train



Broadway.

TEACHERS' INOUIRY...

Ms Maja K.: On one of the islands in Cambodia. Beautiful and clean water, no electricity, sky full of stars, and the best would be fluorescent plankton at night.







#### **WE'VE BEEN BUSY WITH...**

#### REVISION

One of the June's week we spent repeating and revising everything we have learnt during the school year. Thinking about colours, shapes, days of the week, months of the year, letters, numbers and their operations... You can imagine - our heads were spinning. (Occasionally you could have seen some fumes coming out of our ears... Especially when we underwent an exam. (a) Luckily, it was all just a part of our fun education... we still have some time before we go to school and start doing all this knowledge-stuff for real!



The Donkeys pretended to become real schoolers for one week. They even had lessons as big ones — real Math, English, P.E., Science... with bell ringing and breaks. For all their efforts, they were rewarded with stamps in their own, very first, PUPIL BOOKS.



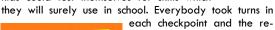
Also the Lions had an end-of-the-school-year revision. Every day, they revised something

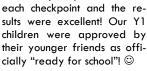
different: colors, numbers, shapes. They have also looked through their yearly folders to see what they have done and accomplished in the whole year. Oh, how proud of their hard work they all were!



#### **BYE-BYE PARTIES**

The very last week in June, we all made sure we give a good send-off to our Y1 kids! Bye-bye party with preschoolers was enormous fun. It included checkpoints prepared by each of the classes and the Y1 kids could test themselves for skills which



















#### PARENTS TO PARENTS...

### STARTING SCHOOL



Mr Harisson has something more to say about getting ready to school. In his profession of a teacher he met plenty of new pupils - some were full of expectations, the others were a bit fearful. How can you, parents, help the kids who are standing on a threshold of this new exciting (and a bit scary) challenge?

Starting school and moving into a new class is a process that millions of children go through worldwide every year and it is a period of time that is filled with a range of emotions for

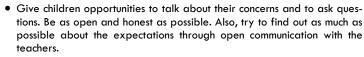
both the child and parents. Research shows that many children see the challenge of starting school as a positive experience. Despite this, and as much as adults try to 'sell' the forthcoming move as 'exciting' - and a positive approach is important - a child will still be anxious about the move. Teaching professionals do have programs, systems and strategies in place to make this transition period as smooth and effective as possible, however there is no harm in beginning preparation early at home to ensure this first experience children have of school has a positive impact on their progress and future schooling.





Away from academics it is important to support children for the social and emotional challenges they may face. The best advice is to communicate openly

about the expectations, both before starting and during the first weeks and months.



- If your child is moving into CIS then they will already be familiar with many aspects of their physical surroundings, which is great as there shouldn't be too much extra anxiety due to this. If they are moving elsewhere then it is important to have a visit beforehand. Maybe take a camera and take photos of areas they will use and then talk with them about it at home after the visit.
- Discuss the idea of independence and responsibility and that when they arrive at school in the morning they should be expected to get themselves ready for the day (following a period of transition). This includes dressing/undressing, finding their class or morning play area etc... all independently of parents. And very importantly, remember to heap praise on them when they do show independent behaviours.







## TEACHERS WERE KIDS, TOO...



I used to spend summer time at grandparents in the village with cats, dog, hens, and pigs and I enjoyed it so much. I was 1 and half year old in the picture and I was completely blonde.

Ms Majka K.

When this picture was taken, I was sad as my sister got to wear traditional folk dress and I had to wear blue one. Now I love it and I wish I would have one, just a bigger sizes.

We believe you know the drill already... Guess, who is in pictures? Tell us, do you have any specific trick that helps you? (We don't know... Maybe observing our teachers more closely, asking your kids for help, googling teachers, ...). We would really love to know. ©





Gajova setting

Úprkova setting

#### **NEWS IN JUNE...**

Look, look! Ms Stanka has a baby girl. Her name is Eliška and she was born at the end of June. They both are happy and healthy. We are all very eager to meet them in person. Hopefully they will come soon...



We offer you a short sneak-peak at our new building in Horský Park. We will focus on cleaning, preparing and moving to the new setting in the summer time. Are you excited? We really are! Please, keep your fingers crossed so we manage to get ready in time ©











### **UPCOMING EVENTS...**



...clubs & extra clubs are cancelled... ...swimming as well as speech lessons will be rescheduled ...

...program will be generally more relaxing...













For more info and pictures visit our website:

www.funiversity.sk

