

Coming to kindergarten after holidays is always exciting, but coming back after Christmas break is somewhat special. A few weeks apart and kids had so much to share with their friends. So many new memories, experiences and maybe even adventures. Christmas Day, New Year's Eve, family visits, baking pastry, cooking traditional meals, skiing trips... There was so much to talk about, that we would need twice more days in a month! But of course, we did not only talk, we also managed to do plenty of activities and enjoy some events. And now you can find out all about them.



ANOTHER STEP FORWARD

We are deeply pleased to announce what is our fourth Funiversity campus to date! Located in Koliba, the facility overlooks the entirety of our capital city and sits surrounded by greenery, in a quiet neighborhood. The area proposes numerous possibilities for the little ones, including hiking, a sport area, and a quick and easy access to the city down below. A walk to Kamzík is not a far way off as well. We would like to offer our sincere appreciation for your ongoing trust and support in our team throughout the years which has helped us to grow and expand to a wider scale of clients looking for a quality preschool education.



MAGICIAN SHOW

Happy New Year to everybody! This year 2020 is going to be amazing because of the magic number! It was the reason why we called our favourite magician Talostan and invited him to visit our Kindergarten again. And it was worth it! He never disappoints and once again he prepared the funniest tricks for all. The trick with cutting a rope is a classic one. The kids never get tired of the magic trick called "How many balls do you have?" and the work with hoops was interesting too. Talostan didn't skip his upgraded scarf trick but our all-time favourite was once again the one with money – the one where Talostan pumped some Euro coins from different parts of kids' bodies, such as noses, belly buttons, and even armpits! It was a crazy moment and kids couldn't believe where it all comes from. The cherry on the top was him making different animals, flowers, or a motorbike from special balloons. Everybody wanted to own one. Great job Mr. Magician, we cannot wait to see your performance again!



Teachers' inquiry... What is magic?

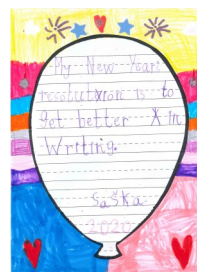
Ms. Katka: I like magic in its true meaning - the magic tricks done by magicians live or in a TV show. Learning a good believable trick myself is actually on my bucket list!



Ms. Lili: Magic is an unexpected gesture of gratitude for little things we do for others every day without thinking.



Ms. Veve: Magic is everywhere if you know where to look. Magic is our creative minds.



Ms. Julka: Magic for me is every "normal" small thing which happens every day in our lives. From the opening our eyes in the morning, through day spent with our kids and colleagues... until the end of the day. I enjoy it very much and this is magic for me.

Ms. Sara: Magic is our power to believe that dreams come true!

Ms. Sabi: Magic is when something good is happening

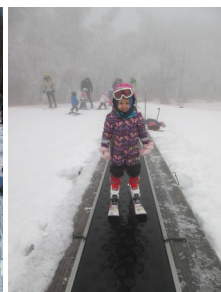


We've been busy with... Winter sports



SKIING COURSE

January was a special month for Reception classes. When they started to bring the skis and big bags to kindergarten, everybody knew that they were going to have some fun in the snow. And when they finally arrived fully prepared on Monday morning, everybody wondered where they were going since there was no snow whatsoever. So, they got on the bus and drove a long way to Zochova chata. And you would not believe it but it looked like a frozen kingdom there! Quick snack, hot tea... and skiing could start. Some kids already knew how to ski and some had to learn it from the very beginning, but by the end of the week everybody showed some great skiing skills! They learned basic skiing positions, how to fall safely and how to stand up, how to put on and take off the skis, ... But above all, they had so much fun. Those early mornings were really worth it.



We spy... What did you like about the skiing course?

Lara (Turtles): It was great because I go on the poma and I go on the big hill.

Luboško (Owls): Eating. And that I was fast.

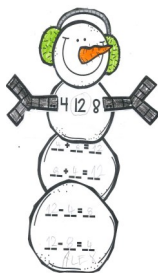
Seo-Yun (Crabs): Teachers.

Sofia (Turtles): That I was going down the hill.

Markétka (Turtles): I liked that I come on the big hill.

Stellka (Crabs): Mr. Matúš.

Lily (Turtles): Because I was going down by myself with Terezka.

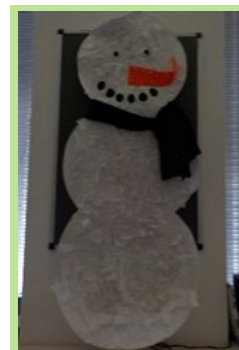
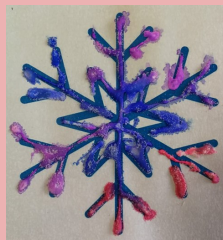


A DAY OF SLEDGING

Sadly, this year has not been an encouraging one in terms of a snowy cover that the children could enjoy merrily. So, whenever an opportunity finally arose, we grabbed our sleighs and rushed to the nearest slope to enjoy the winter fun. The kids could not be more excited to race each other to the bottom of the hill as the teachers ran around catching them frantically. It was a magical day that will hold its place in our memories for years to come and we hope to have many more of them like this in the future.



The **Ladybugs** were trying a new art technique: they were creating some snowflakes – they were following their shapes according to template with a liquid glue, then they used a little bit of salt to make a snowy effect and in the end they were putting small colourful drops using pipettes.



Well, we don't have much snow this winter here in Bratislava, but **Flamingos** and **Pufferfish** crafted beautiful huge snowman posters anyway! They used papers of different colours, lots of glue, their crafty hands, and a good attitude. The kids practiced their fine motor skills, and, of course, they deepened their creativity. The final outcome made all kids smile. It was awesome to spend some time working together like this.





FASHION SHOW

Talking about beauty and what kids find beautiful can vary. Across the KG, kids were working within their class teams to create a fashion masterpiece. One of the most popular materials seemed to be anything recyclable. During the whole week, kids were using various materials such as paper, fabric, plastic to work on their designs, which they presented during the KG event – Fashion Show. To make it even greater in front of the audience, each class had ready their own Catwalk choreography that made the show more exciting and professional. Fashion show is one of our favourite events, where kids work hard on their project to create and to represent in front of audience. At the end, kids cannot wait to take it home and to use it with pride. Well done to all young designers!



We spy... What you don't like to wear?

Ms. Katka: Although they are very practical for wintertime, I don't like to wear turtle neck sweaters - they squeeze my neck and make me feel like I am choking.



Isabel (Lions): Boots. They are not my favourite.

Ms. Vava: I don't know, I like to wear everything that is pretty, stylish, interesting, edgy, unique.

Pa'ko (Narwhals): The shirt I'm wearing right now.



Ms. Nad'ka: I really dislike wearing woolen sweaters. I find them very itchy!

Ivan (Pufferfish): Guns clothes, I don't like to go on shooting.

Ms. Ivetka: I don't really like winter hats. Ironically, they make my ears feel cold.



Rebeka (Turtles): I don't like underwear. And I don't want to have socks.

Seo-Yun (Crabs): Goggles because they are making me silly.

Ms. Vivi: I doesn't like to wear mittens.



Ms. Pet'a: I must say anything with neon colours, snakeskin or too glittery things but on the other hand I love to see these fashion items on kids!



Pa'ko (Lions): Rifle and košeľa. Because it's stlačiť mi nohy a celé brucho.

Amálka (Flamingos): My Daddys big, big backpack. It is very heavy.

Ľuboško (Owls): Všetko ja si obliekam rád.



Ms. Jude: I don't like to wear high heeled shoes. I really can't walk in them, and I always end up breaking the heel. I love wearing Doctor Martens.

Terezka (Turtles): I don't like to wear the rolák.

Stellka (Crabs): The scarf which one is šedý.

Our class projects ...



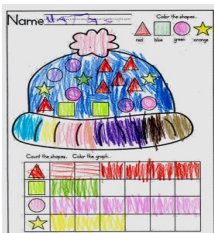
In connection with the topic about beauty, the **Lions** explored artwork of the artist Claude Monet to learn how to perceive the beauty in art and evaluate it. This way Lions also developed their own point of view and found different ways to express themselves through art.

This week we were creating fashion design for the Fashion show. While working on it, the **Foxes** got to know some new art techniques and performed their teamwork.



Marcos (Seals): I hate underwear.

Mr. Kubo: I really don't like to wear sweatpants in public and I also don't like to wear flipflops with this thing between the toes...





MUSIC AROUND

We all love music. Every day we move and sing our favourite tunes for different reasons: to relax, to cheer up, to celebrate, or even to learn. To use music for learning is a great strategy how to deliver learning objective to kids in a way that is fun and relax. We had one of the educational concerts in our KG, where kids learnt a lot about musical instruments but also about the music and its country of origin. In this live music performance, the kids could watch musicians playing piano and violin, they could join in singing and clapping hands. Each song was introduced to kids via worlds famous cartoons and tv characters which children are familiar with. The kids were happy to name the characters and some older kids even recognized the country where the piece of music came from. Everyone seemed to enjoy the atmosphere during the concert, the kids looked happy and relaxed. Good job guys for being a great audience!



Through the week, the **Foxes** were learning a new song – I Am the Music Man. We were singing and also playing various musical instruments according to the song and its lyrics.

The **Turtles** also talked about music and musical instruments more than any other regular week. After reading a book about Bears in a Band, they also decided to create their own class orchestra. Some instruments were created from scratch (using waste materials, such as toilet paper rolls), some were made from random objects found in the classroom (e.g. pencils tapping each other, old paper rustling, drumming on a chair, etc.), and some were brought from our music storage. Some people would call our music a loud ramble, but we strongly disagree with them! It came right out of our hearts, you know!



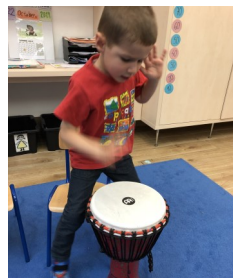
SCHOOL READINESS TESTING

As the Y-1 children inadvertently grow older and our days with them diminish in number, we start to look ahead at the exciting experiences that await them in the upcoming years. One of those experiences certainly is school. This year's School Readiness Testing has come and gone as we picked the brains of our Y-1's on subjects such as mathematics, language development and visual/auditory perception. It was a pleasure to witness the children get their first sense of a school-like environment with excitement on their faces. Let's all hope it stays there!



Extra-curricular activities...

Drum & Bass Club



Cooking Club



If I were...

Ms. Vivi - Foxes (Staré Mesto)

If I were... I would be:

... animal: cat

But the kids say:

* Cow. Because she gives us milk.

* Pig. She likes the pink colour

... colour: white

But the kids say:

* Pink. Or red. I don't know.

* All the colours. Because she is learning Foxes some new colours.

* Pinky. Because she is a girl.

* Pink. She likes pink so much.

... weather: sunny

But the kids say:

* Cold. She likes cold weather.

... shape: circle

But the kids say:

* Rectangle. Because she is not triangle.

* Square. Because belly is like a square.

* Triangle. She likes it.

... vegetable or fruit: peach

But the kids say:

* Banana. Because it's yummy.

* Carrot. Because carrot is long.

* Strawberry. Because strawberries are in the summer and she likes summer.

* Banana. She likes it to eat.

... fairy tale character: princess Ariel

But the kids say:

* Dragon. She needs to be a dragon.

* Doktorka Pinnová. Because Doktorka Pinnová is a girl and her friend is Indian.

* Pink fairy.



Ms. Kika - Ladybugs (Mlynská Dolina)

If I were... I would be:

... animal: Akita dog

But the kids say:

* Ms. Kika can be an elephant, because she is a witch or a pterodactyl.

* She is a monkey, because she is wearing a lot of brown clothes every day.

... colour: turquoise

But the kids say:

* Ms. Kika can be yellow, because she is wearing yellow jacket like big citrón.

* She is dark red colour, because she is a barbecue dip.

... weather: summer rain

And the kids say:

* Ms. Kika is freezing weather.

* She can be like snow, because snow is funny.

... shape: hour-glass

And the kids say:

* Ms. Kika is a square, because square means home and she is home.

* I think Ms. Kika is triangle, because her boobies are making this body shape ...

vegetable or fruit: strawberry

But the kids say:

* Ms. Kika is a peach, because she looks almost like papier.

* She can be a pineapple or a broccoli because Star Wars made it.

... fairy tale character: Blossom from Powerpuff girls

But the kids say:

* Ms. Kika is Spiderman: she looks like Spiderman without costume.

* She is Lego Batman.



Mr. Hugh - Narwhals (Horský Park)

If I were... I would be:

... animal: whale

But the kids say:

* Monkey.

* A bull, because he has something in his nose.

* Tiger

* Bunny, Chicken

* I know it only in Slovakia...srnka.

... colour: dark purple

But the kids say:

* Red... I love red colour.

* Green.

* Skinny. *But that is not a colour.* Skin is color!

* Orange.

... weather: sunny

But the kids say:

* Night.

* Rain.

* Cloudy, Sunny

... shape: octagon

But the kids say:

* Heart.

* Rectangle.

* A circle, because his face is a circle.

* Triangle.

... vegetable or fruit: Mango

But the kids say:

* Salad

* Pepper and apple.

* Pineapple with sweet pear.

... fairy tale character: Mr. Fox from Fantastic Mr. Fox

But the kids say:

* I think he looks like Flash, with that blue thing on his nose.



What happened at CIS school...



Floorball Tournament

All the kids, parents and teachers were ready and full of energy when they were split into four teams. It was very competitive and each team wanted to leave the tournament as the winning team. Everyone gave his or her best.



Classical Music Assembly

Our talented primary students showed us their skills by performing classical pieces on the piano and Secondary students played on harp, recorder and one student even showed us a fragment from a ballet performance.

Maths and Science Day

The key objective was to inspire children by showing what is possible and how these subjects can help answer questions such as the what, the why and the how, as well as crack everyday challenges. This day was full of games, mysteries, competitions, excitement, and fun.



ReadwithCambridge

We started the new year with wonderful memories of winter holidays! We encouraged and invited our students to Read with Cambridge challenge and we are happy to see lots of students reading books in so many beautiful places.

