



18th November 2022

Primary News

A word from Mrs Železinger

Dear Parents and Students,

Welcome back to the start of Block 3! It is that time of the year when the temperatures drop and the rainy days are more frequent. Please remember to dress up warmly, with a weather-appropriate coat and footwear, so that the students can continue enjoying the outdoors as much as possible while remaining safe and healthy.

As part of [Anti-Bullying Week](#) taking place between 14th-18th November, with the theme of *Reach Out*, students have talked about the types of and the impact of bullying, the importance of paying attention to the feelings of others and reaching out to give support or ask for help. Tying in with the school values, students reflected on their own behaviour and how to be active citizens through compassion, responsibility and respect for diversity. See the link above for useful resources to help you talk to your child about this at home.

To celebrate the World Cup taking place this year, the PE department has launched the **BISL World Cup Student Sweepstake**, in which all classes will be able to participate and track the progress of their country as the World Cup unfolds. Alongside the students, staff will also be taking part in the Staff Sweepstake. Good luck!

At the end of this term, we will be issuing **EYFS and Primary Autumn Reports**, reflecting the progress students have made in their core subjects of English, Maths and Topic. Additional reports will also be issued for students in the Slovene Advanced group and those in the EAL program. Please note that the virtual **Parent-Teacher Interviews for Primary** will be held at the **start of Term 2**. Dates and information on how to book appointments will be sent out to parents. The interviews are an opportunity for parents to talk about their child's successes and further targets to work towards. Should parents have any concerns about their child, please raise these with the Class Teacher as soon as possible rather than wait until the interviews.

In partnership with two charity organisations, *Zveza Prijateljev Mladine Ljubljana Moste-Polje* and *Trije Zimski Botri* and with the ongoing support from you, the parents and our students, we are aiming to make 160 wishes come true this year through the **BISL Make a Wish Project!** We are thankful to have such an amazing community here at BISL and grateful for your ongoing support of this project. Have a wonderful weekend.

Kind regards,

*Katarina Železinger
Head of Primary*



Class Teacher Reports

Early Years

This week in the Early Years, the children learned about different building materials through the story "The Three Little Pigs". They built the houses in "The three little pigs small world" to explore why some building materials are better than others.



The children explored the world of 2D shapes by recognising them in everyday objects because shapes are everywhere around them.

Children also recognised shapes in housing features while creating junk model houses and went on a shape hunt around the school.

Ms Kukovica

Year 1

We had a very exciting first week back. In Maths, we used our knowledge of shapes to look at lines of symmetry and made very creative symmetrical art pieces.

We then used shapes to make trees, animals, cars and other objects and used positional language to explain where the shapes are to our classmates. Their task was to guess the object we made.



In English lessons, we drew a story map of the book "Handa's Surprise" and used actions to retell the story. In our topic lessons, we are learning about different celebrations that happen around the world. So far, we have taken an aeroplane to visit India and the Diwali festival and the USA to learn about Thanksgiving.

Ms Miklavec

Year 2

In Topic, the children have been entranced listening to each and every presentation given by their classmates about the celebrations they celebrate with their families. We had a wonderful time discussing the differences between the various cultures and household traditions.



Thank you to the parents who took the time to do the assignments over the block break. The children are mighty proud of their achievements in sharing something they worked so hard to bring to the class.

Ms Torrington

Year 3

In year 3B, Pupils turned into adventurers and found different kinds of unexplored islands; tropical, deserted islands with dangerous animals or some with vast vegetation, rivers and lakes.



Children expected to find gold treasures, traps, and ruins from lost civilisations. They teamed up to visualise their imaginations.

Ms Spangl

Year 5

This week the children took part in an introduction to the arts by testing out different materials and techniques just like real artists. Will Year 5 have the next Van Gogh?



In Maths we focused on multiplication techniques and learnt about the inverse. In English, the children are learning about what dilemmas are and the stories linked to them.

Mrs Thomas-Hayes

Year 6

The Year 6 students completed their peer assessment for their last week's assignment - *Layout of the Benin city*. They needed to judge each other's work by referring to a rubric they had agreed upon.



Peer assessment can help students develop their critical thinking and evaluation skills. Throughout the lesson, the students practised identifying strengths and weaknesses and giving constructive feedback. This activity led to increased cooperation and collaboration among students.

Mr Kokalj

Departmental News

PE

Across primary PE lessons this week, we introduced some of the basic concepts of our new sporting units. Year 1 and 2 students focused on fundamental movement patterns in gymnastics, whilst Year 3 and 4 developed their understanding of volleyball. Year 5 and 6 began their invasion games unit, working on positional sense and spatial awareness when playing Swedish Handball.

PE Department

Slovene

Year 1 and 2 students at Slovene Foundation have been learning about family members this week. They worked on the vocabulary and talked to each other and summarized the questions.



They also drew their family and wrote the Slovenian names of the family: "mami", "očka", "brat", "sestra". Please take a look at their work. Čudovito!

Ms Drogenik

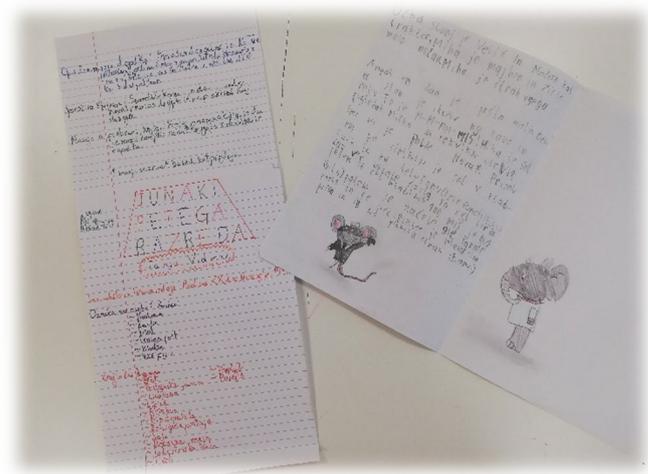
In Y5 and Y6 Slovene Intermediate group, students were practicing vocabulary from the topic "V mestu" through different activities. One of them was working in pairs and making dialogues in different facilities around the city.



Based on the phrases of each dialogue, the classmates had to guess where the conversation was happening (e.g. trgovina, bolnišnica ...). Students did really well collaborating with their peers and showing their acting skills too.

Ms Jakop

In Y5/6 Slovene lessons students started Block 3 on a strong note.



They are already bringing their pieces of evidence about the books they read. Looking forward to seeing them all!

Ms Kotnik

Other News

Welcome to the Creative Arts block

This block there are lots of exciting things going on throughout the whole block and across the whole school.

We have our fantastic Christmas pantomime Peter Pan, showing to primary on the 8th and to secondary on the 9th of December after lunch, with the show for parents happening on the 12th at 16:30.

We will be running a competition for the design of the poster and tickets, which is open to years 5 and above. Information for this will be given during assemblies.

We will also be keeping to tradition and getting the whole school and staff involved in our Christmas cover video. This year we will perform a rendition of 'I wish it could be Christmas every day' by Wizard.

There are 9 solo spots available and also an opportunity for singing in the whole school chorus. Here is a link to the song we will be singing.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IJPc7esgvsA&t=4s>

Please also see previous years songs for examples.



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=fNPdC5UwPt8&t=4s>



<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=63x8hqa733k>

The Cobis Art competition is a brilliant opportunity for young artists to compete internationally and showcase their talent. The deadline for submissions was the beginning of this week and students responded to the theme of "Who am I?". The competition is open to all COBIS schools and only 2 entries can be submitted for each Key stage. We will announce the finalists during our assembly next week, so keep an eye on our social media as we reveal the finalists for Key stages 3, 4 and 5.

Last year all students in art participated in the homework task of recreating either a famous piece of art or a well-known album cover using photography. This year it will be open to the whole of secondary (staff too!). Choose an image to recreate, photograph yourself, family, friends or complete it in groups depending on how many people are in the original piece. Please send your entry with the original to Ms Hawkins by 02/12.

Some will remember the virtual art exhibition that we had last year. This block we will be showcasing all the best recreations in our virtual exhibition. Will you make it to the gallery wall this year?



PTA News

Dear Parents,

The PTA (Parent-Teacher Association) is glad to start sharing news regarding our activities at BISL.

We are a group of parents-volunteers, who support the school at the events around traditional holidays (i.e. Christmas, Halloween) or specific BISL school events, such as International day or the Teacher appreciation breakfast.

In order to organise these events, the PTA volunteers are always trying to find ways to raise funds, since the group does not have any allocated budget from the Orbital group or the school. As an example, this autumn the PTA organised a very successful Second-hand uniform sale, where we were raising funds for the Teachers appreciation breakfast, Halloween and future events.

How can you help:

If you have time we are always looking for new volunteers to help with the planning phase of the events and/or during the events. You can also help by bringing any items that are needed for specific events (such as baked goods or decorations etc).

And you can always donate to the PTA budget (we need funds to buy or replace items needed for different events, for food/drinks, performances etc), and we would especially appreciate your donations if you are visiting the PTA events as a guest.

So, Dear parents, if you feel that you would like to get to know each other better, build up a great community around BISL and find out more about school life and especially if you wish to make the school experience even better for your children - PTA is indeed a great opportunity. We meet after every 'Coffee with the principal' at school. Feel free to contact us via e-mail: pta@britishschool.si or through your class representative.

PTA group

BISL Make a Wish project



Christmas time, presents and snow are just around the corner. This is the happiest and the most magical time of the year for many children. But not all. This year we would like to work together again, to bring smiles to the faces of those children to whom magic does not come by itself.

In partnership with two charity organizations, *Zveza Prijateljev Mladine Ljubljana Moste-Polje* and *Trije Zimski Botri* and with the ongoing support from you, the parents and our students, we are aiming to make 160 wishes come true this year!

Next week, children will pick and choose the letters in class and will bring the printed letter home with them. All the information about the project will be shared on our website, social media and via e-mail. Parents will also receive a PDF version of the letter that their child will pick by e-mail.

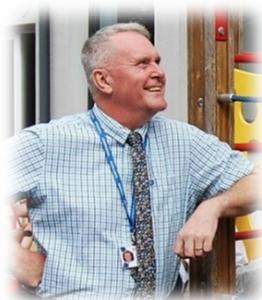
We are thankful to have such an amazing community here at BISL and grateful for your ongoing support of this project.

Principal's Update

Friday 18th November 2022

Dear Parents and Families,
It has been a very positive week back for the start of our Block 3. Despite the chilliness on Monday - *all heating in the school buildings has now been set at 23 degrees to ensure a comfortable working temperature for students and staff* - our students of all ages have returned refreshed and eager to return to their learning. That enthusiasm for their school environment and motivation to learn is an essential part of what makes our school special. One of the many privileges I have as BISL School Principal, is to observe the students from my office which is located at a key 'crossroads'. I am fortunate to get to meet many of our young people as they move around the buildings, and to witness the joy, fun and laughter they share. There can be no doubt that for the vast majority of BISL students every school day is a happy one 😊.

As mentioned previously, at the start of the Block Break last week, all our staff were engaged in important training and professional development, with the goal of making us a better school and better educators. We spent time collaborating on the school's draft School Development Plan. That was extremely helpful, and we will share further news on our development plans in due course.



In addition, the teaching staff were expertly led by our Head of Secondary and others through some of the latest and clearest thinking on how to deliver meaningful feedback back most effectively to our students. We fully explored the amazing approaches to immediate, thought-provoking, action-inducing feedback provided to students '*in the moment*', '*as their lesson and learning proceeds*'. Obviously, we very much hope that the results of our training and the following practice by our teachers will lead to faster progress, greater challenge, more interaction, more fun, and deeper thinking amongst our learners.



Our first reports for this school year will be published to our Y11 & Y13 students and their families next week. These reports mark a development for BISL since this will be the first time that the reports are published via our Parent Portal. We hope that everything goes well but if not, please do not hesitate to contact your son or daughter's form tutor for assistance. They will pass on your issue to the relevant person.

In the two weeks after that, the rest of the Secondary School year groups will receive their reports. On Wednesday 30th it will be the turn of Year 7, Year 10 & Year 12, and on Wednesday 7th December it will be the turn of Year 8 & Year 9. These reports will be issued to families in time for you to prepare your questions for the Secondary Parent-Teacher meetings which take place from Monday 5th December onwards.

Finally, in the week commencing 12th December the Early Years and Primary children will receive their school reports, with the parent-teacher meetings taking place in early January. Again, this timing should allow parents to digest the report information and formulate some questions to ask their child's class teacher.

As Christmas is approaching soon, our support of disadvantaged children via the BISL 'Make A Wish Xmas Project', which provides a Xmas gift for children in need, starts properly next Monday. Parents and children will be provided with full details, and I strongly encourage you all to support this excellent initiative.

Class and Form tutors will be discussing the 160 Xmas gifts we have committed to provide by 7th December, with their students and parents will receive the information both via their children and electronically. Exciting indeed, and a great activity for our community to be engaged in.

Have a safe and warm, relaxing family weekend.

All best wishes,



Matthew Cox
School Principal

Dates to Note

Thu	Dec 1 st	BISL Story Time
Fri	Dec 2 nd	PTA X-mass Market
Tue	Dec 6 th	Whole School House Competition 1
Thu	Dec 8 th	School Art Exhibition
Thu - Mon	Dec 8 th - Dec 12 th	Peter Pan production
Fri	Dec 16 th	Block 3 end - Christmas Dress Down Day

All upcoming events and details are available on our [website](#).

School Contact Details

Reception Hours: M-F 07:15-16:00
General Telephone: +386 40486548
Admissions: +386 40618356
General Enquiries: enquiries@britishschool.si
Accounts: accounts@britishschool.si
Principal: principal@britishschool.si

School Calendars

For Term dates and school holidays, [click here](#).