19 June 2020

Primary News

A word from Mrs Železinger

Dear Parents and Students,

Since the reopening of BISL, we have seen more and more of our students returning and can be very proud of the high attendance rate at 94%. The after-school provision for all primary students has been running successfully and more students have signed up for this option. This provision continues until Tuesday 30th June.

All primary students from Y2 to Y6 have now completed the progress tests in English and Maths (PTE and PTM). We can be very proud of the outstanding results, reflecting continuous improvement and progress our students have made throughout this year, including the period of the online learning program.
Further information and updates are available on our website news section, updates from the principal and BISL reopening procedures guidance.

As part of the transition, the Head of Secondary Ms Andronikos hosted a presentation to Y6 class this week. Students were given information about the uniform, expectations and use of technology, and were able to ask questions. This event will be followed by students receiving certificates of completion of Primary school and a formal welcome from secondary student representatives next week.

Please remember that next Thursday 25th June is a public holiday celebrating the *Statehood Day* so the school will be closed. Friday, 26th June is the International Dress-Down Day. Class photos will be taken for the Yearbook, therefore make sure you are dressed for the occasion in a traditional dress or colours to represent your country and culture. The photo below from the celebrations in April 2016 will give you some ideas:

'Most of my important lessons about life have come from recognizing how others from a different culture view things.'—Edgar H. Schein

Wednesday 1st July is the last day of school and is a half-day. Please note that no lunches should be ordered for that day with pick up at 12:00.

Have a restful and enjoyable weekend,

Katarina Železinger
Head of Primary

Class Teacher Reports

Early Years

Early Years (EY) have been making the most of the sunny periods, and as well as enjoying free play in the sandpit and Woodland Area, have continued to venture outside into the countryside.

Both EY groups have continued to enjoy a good walk, but our Nursery section took it to another level yesterday when they completed a walk of around 3.25km in just under an hour and a half! In Maths we have been measuring various items (using both centimetres and plastic fish), and have managed to arrange ourselves into an order of height (only 2mm separated the height of two of our children!).

Traditional music and dance was the order of the day in 'Slovene' this week.

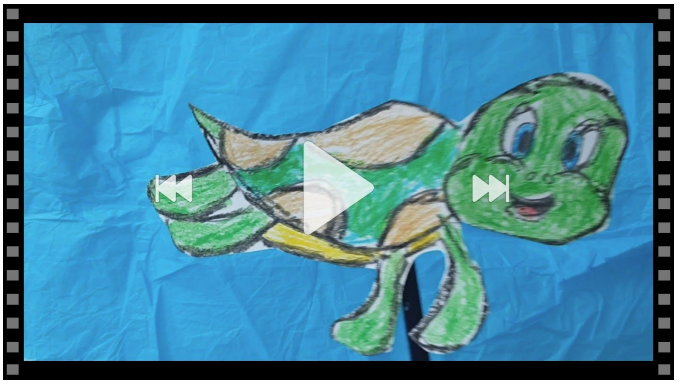
Mr Irving

Year 1

This block Year 1 have been exploring science. Last week Y1 were set with the challenge of designing and making a boat that floats and sails. It was a huge success with all children reaching both goals. We used the wind up propeller and balloon engines.

Y1 also had the opportunity of going on a relaxing nature walk and spending some time outside of the classroom, enjoying the sunshine and being outdoors.

This week Y1 have been looking into the plastic ocean crisis. Y1 were given the choice to choose a method in which they could help this crisis and they chose to make a video to post in YouTube so children all around the world can watch. All week we have been researching oceans and plastic pollution, developing characters and settings, thinking how we can make everyday plastic free choices and learning basic video capturing skills.



Finished videos will be posted on 'Hyooz videos' on youtube and on the school Facebook page, make sure you subscribe and check them out!

Mr Hughes

Year 2

This week Year 2 have been learning about diary entries in Literacy. They talked about the characters' feelings in their class text and what caused these particular feelings. In small groups, they acted out some of these feelings and emotions.

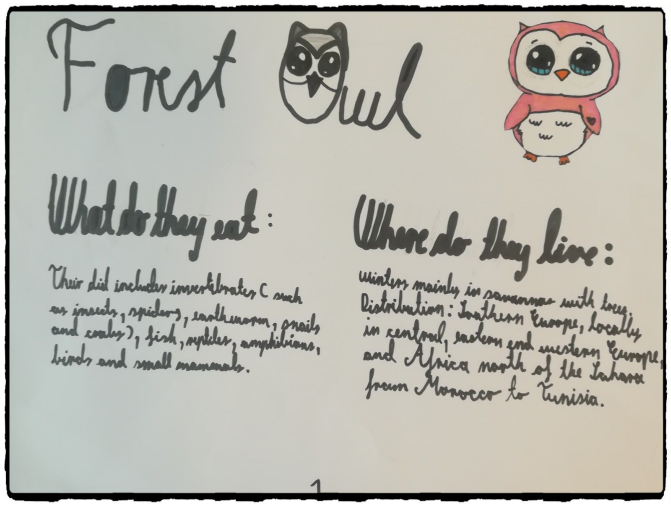
They were able to present their work to each other with great confidence.

It was fantastic to see! They have been stars again this week! Well done Year 2.

Ms Harris

Year 3

This week in Year 3, the students presented their projects on the animals of the rainforest. Working in teams, the students researched an animal of their choice that is native to the rainforest, determined where the animal lived, what its diet is, what its characteristics are, and whether it is endangered.



The students showed much ingenuity and endeavour when working on their projects and can be very proud of their efforts.

Mr Mulcahy

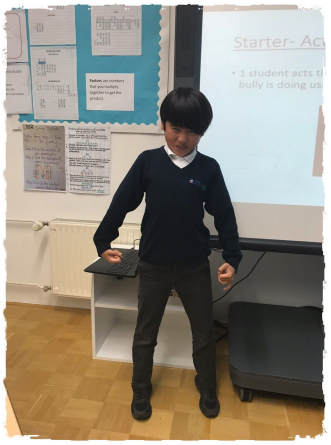
Year 4

This week in Year 3, the students presented their projects on the animals of the rainforest. Working in teams, the students researched an animal of their choice that is native to the rainforest, determined where the animal lived, what its diet is, what its characteristics are, and whether it is endangered.

The students showed much ingenuity and endeavour when working on their projects and can be very proud of their efforts.

Mr Bishop

Year 5



Working hard in week 5, the students have enjoyed taking the next steps in creating their playscripts by exploring a bully character. In Maths, the students have become the teachers, explaining long division questions to their friends as well as tackling tricky word problems in groups. In our effort to save the world we have been investigating the usefulness of solar energy and tested the potential solar energy on our premises. Have a lovely weekend.

Mr Walker

Year 6

Year 6 are very excited to be moving to Secondary School and are counting down the days until it happens! We have been talking together in PSHE about their expectations:

How do you feel about going to Secondary?

excited, excited, excited,
happy to leave Primary, which is over-protective
Leather shoes... I don't think I'll enjoy wearing them.
I need to get organised… Secondary teachers do not tolerate excuses.

I have many friends from secondary school, I am looking forward to seeing them more often.
We're ready!
So excited for next year, I hope I get to meet some new friends

What are you most excited about?

freedom
Meeting older, more mature students who know things and that we have more in common with.
Moving around the school
Mrs Andronikos seems nice, I am looking forward to meeting all of my new teachers next academic year.

Mrs Charlesworth & Mr Kokalj

Departmental News

PE News

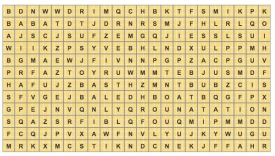
This week in PE, students have been learning some fun new games such as "Capture the flag" and Floorball.

Before the actual gameplay, the PE department always receives help from our lovely Y11 student, who makes sure the students are warmed up properly while repeating all of the previously learned loco-motor movements.

PE Department

French

Year 5 students have been very imaginative this week. They created games to learn and practise sports vocabulary.

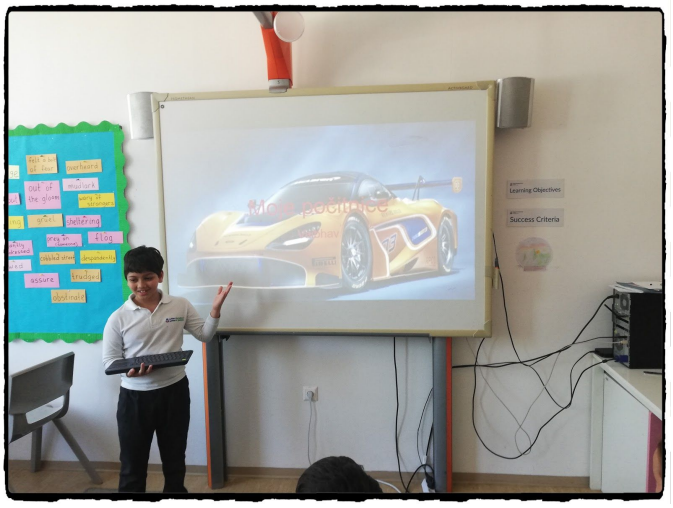


Bravo!

Mrs Poulet

Slovene

Y4 students prepared oral presentations about their dream holidays. They followed some specific questions as well as making sure they speak clearly and with proper intonation. After that, they evaluated each other's work to further improve their knowledge or to simply get compliments.



Good work, Y4!

Slovene Department

Star of the Week

proudly presented to:

Nursery

Karoline... for her constant enthusiasm and winning smile!

Reception

Ayaka... for playing cooperatively with her classmates, helping her friends and having a positive attitude all week.

Year 1

Sunny and Irene... for their excellent behaviour and fantastic work in topic learning about plastic pollution in the sea!

Year 2
Hanna… for her focus and dedication in all subjects this week! Well done Hanna

Year 3
Alana... for approaching your work in a concentrated and diligent way, and for being a terrific team player when completing your topic project this week. Well done and keep up the good work!

Year 4
Liam... for his original adaptations of classic games on Hopscotch.

Year 5
Muhamed... for continued hard work throughout his time at our school. We are lucky and pleased to have him with us.

Year 6A
Rem and Samuel... For being Outstanding Global Citizens and being the ones to make positive changes to our community.
Aleksander and Peter... For being Outstanding Global Citizens and being the ones to make positive changes to our community.

Year 6B
Tikhon... for your consistent effort to complete all the work this week. I enjoy seeing you start the work immediately upon being given the task.

House points

First place is Emerald with 40 points!

CoNgRaTuLaTiOnS!

Second place with **33 points**... **Sapphire**
Third place with **26 points**... **Zircon**
Fourth place with **24 points**... **Hessonite**

Principal's Update

Educational outcomes have continued to improve throughout the period of online learning

Dear Parents,

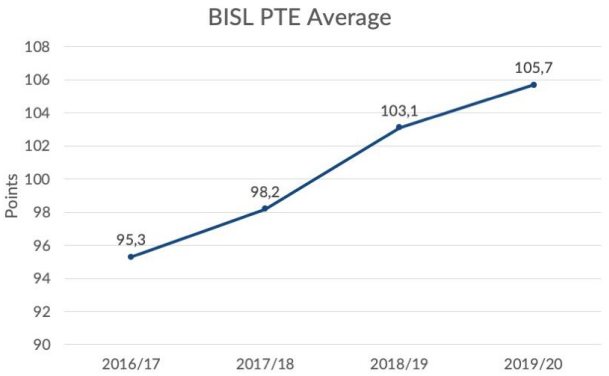
We are delighted to announce our outstanding results from the recent PTE and PTM tests at school.

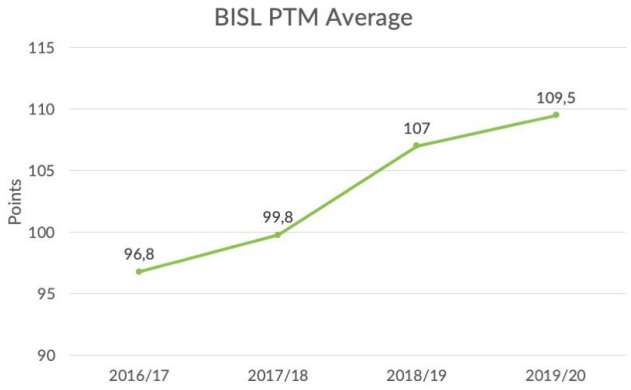
These are subject attainment tests for English and Maths and are standardised across 100,000 children to accurately measure how our school and our students are performing.

The PTE (Progress Test in English) assesses the technical English Skills of the students, including spelling, grammar and punctuation, as well as reading comprehension. The PTM (Progress Test in Maths) monitors the mathematical skills and knowledge, in areas such as number, shape, data handling and algebra, as well as their mathematical reasoning and problem-solving skills. These tests are provided by GL Assessment and are used in over 100 countries worldwide, including our family of schools in the Orbital Education Group.

These international tests provide a rigorous and high-quality assessment for all students.

At the British International School of Ljubljana, our students complete these tests from Year 2 onwards. These are taken in supervised conditions, via online activities and are assessed externally to ensure total accuracy and reliability of the marks awarded. The raw score of each student is then converted into a standardised score which takes into account the student's age in years and months, creating a Standard Age Score (SAS), used as a recognised benchmark to measure performance against a sample of students of the same age in the fairest way possible. The global average score is 100.





The charts show the continued progress our students have made during these last 4 years, continually achieving remarkable results, with a clear upward trend.

Our students at BISL achieve significantly above expectations over time and this has continued to improve. This is particularly impressive when you take into account the fact that many of our students are not native English speakers.

Our students have once again produced outstanding academic outcomes, raising the standards and setting the bar higher for the next cohort.

We are very proud of the results that our students have achieved at school. This demonstrates that their academic progress has been maintained throughout this year and during the blended learning programme adopted during the COVID-19 pandemic. The attendance during online lessons and upon our return to school has been excellent – over 94% during this recent period. We believe in the strong correlation between attendance and achievement, as the students make the best progress when they are with their teachers and peers, excited and actively engaged in their learning.

The students have been fantastic and truly deserve all the plaudits for their outstanding results.

The teachers have worked extremely hard with the students and put in a tremendous amount of effort with:

1. Thorough and comprehensive preparation for the standardised tests
2. Ongoing regular and detailed personalised feedback to ensure good progress
3. High-quality resources, videos and activities to engage students
4. Online Learning activities to guide, consolidate and extend learning

We are very proud of everyone involved and now look forward to our next set of results, for our IGCSE and A Level students, which are due to be released in August.

Previous updates:

1. Friday 12th June – New Staff Profiles and welcome letters.
2. Friday 5th June – Updates to Safety Guidance.
3. Friday 29th May – Transition back.
4. Friday 22nd May – First week back.
5. Friday 15th May – BISL Reopening Procedure Guidance.
6. Friday 8th May – Reopening Guidance.
7. Friday 1st May – Using Canvas and E-Safety.
8. Friday 24th April – Successes and Challenges of Online Learning.
9. Friday 17th April – The FAQs, current processes and the looking ahead for our school.
10. Friday 10th April – The Five Improvement Areas created during the block break after the first two weeks of Online Learning.
11. Monday 30th March – The Block Break Plan for the 2 Week Evaluation and Key Communication from the School.
12. Friday 13th March – Frequently Asked Questions.

I hope you have a relaxing weekend,

Paul Walton

Principal

School Contact Details

Reception Hours: M-Th 07:15-19:00 (Fr 17:00)
General Telephone: +386 40486548
Admissions: +386 40618356
General Enquiries: enquiries@britishschool.si
Accounts: accounts@britishschool.si
Paul Walton (Principal):
paul.walton@britishschool.si

School Calendar 2019-20
To see our school calendar with major dates click on the link below:
https://britishschool.si/school-life/term-dates-1

Dates to Note

June

Thu	25th June	Public Holiday - School Closed
Fri	26th June	International Day (Dress Down Day)

July

Wed	1st July	Block 7 Ends