

IPS Newsletter

November - December 2019

Preschool



Our preschoolers have worked really hard on our super exciting topic: Treasure Island. Throughout November, we explored the lives of pirates, we designed our own coins, flags, even pirate ships, we talked about the pirates' rules, eating habits and the way they talked.

November is a special month when Thanksgiving is celebrated. We made our very own Thanksgiving feast and even baked our super delicious turkey, which the whole school enjoyed. We have discussed what we are thankful for and what is important in our lives.



December was equally as exciting and busy as November. Santa visited us and gave our preschoolers presents and good advice. We have just had our Christmas Performance. Our children have prepared for it very enthusiastically which showed in their incredible performances. We are closing our year on a super high note. On behalf of us, we are wishing you a merry Christmas, a relaxing holiday with your family and a very prosperous new year.



We are already reading!

We are already reading! The little 1st graders are busy with learning to read and write. They are excited about what will be the next letter. While practising, they are listening to relaxing music that helps them concentrate. Please, welcome our video presenting our 1st graders while reading:

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1M0wdFvjmr57lvveYr yKsPxfckUzbk Q

They enjoy reading more and more. Several little first graders reported that they would read the evening tale to their mothers at home.

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1NBOMb4qWPq y9SprgZznhL9e1Pr2v2b3N

https://drive.google.com/open?id=1a3kioDxRQvRx5 Qgy3GnX9vjiLF4F96Oc

Mathematics



Our first graders started their first Maths classes with huge enthusiasm and love. At the beginning of each class they mentioned how much they love Maths. They like their first Maths book, and they try to make progress as quickly as possible – to get to the bigger numbers and to the harder exercises.

The second graders also enjoy learning about higher numbers, and they proudly tell the others how much they know the numbers up to 100. In the past few weeks they have faced the difficulties of measuring time, but they bravely got into it, and they are trying to get better and better.

The third and fourth grades are learning at a very high speed, their foundations are strengthened, and as a result they can easily solve new problems.

The performances of all these four grades are improving at an incredible speed, and they can be very proud of it.



Because of the fact that the fifth graders can confidently perform the four basic operations regarding Natural numbers, it was time to hold a competition for these operations: Multiplication – Division finished in a dead heat.

We conducted an experiment in which we compared the numbers of our heart beats first in a relaxed situation, then after running. Of course, in order to do that, the kids had to excel in multiplying.

We have started to get to know the wonderful world of Geometry: Parallels, Perpendiculars, Concaves, Convex plane figures, Polygons, Diagonals. As it turned out, using the compass is not an easy task.

The sixth graders spent the last month with Integers: plus—minus—minus—plus. We practiced this during the whole time.

The next unit won't be easier either: we will learn about the Decimals.

Until then we can think about the following: -1+2-3+4-5+.....-99+100 = ?



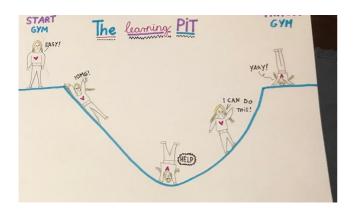
On the link below, you can see how our students are counting their heartbeats:

https://photos.app.goo.gl/eqkoMoS4MmkW7VJJ7

Native English

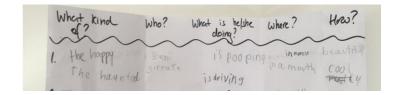


In Native English for the last month we have been doing an international study on the Olympics. The children learnt about the Ancient Olympics in Greece and some of the fascinating facts that it was performed for the Greek God Zeus, and that they used to earn an olive branch wreath for first place. They researched the modern Olympics including winter and summer games and studied the Olympic symbol of the five connecting rings. The children were amazed to learn about the Paralympics. They loved the story about a young man who won Gold in swimming even though he had no arms! Another aspect we looked at was Nutrition and what it takes to fuel a healthy body. We studied the five food groups. We used this topic to practice individual research, listen to interviews, ask questions, have lots of discussions and write down some fast facts.



As well as a focus on International mindedness in connection with the Paralympics we covered our personal goals of Resilience and Adaptability. This led us to discover the 'Learning Pit', which is a well known illustration of how learning happens. What happens before during and after a difficult challenge. It shows all the emotions involved in the process from feeling excited then frustrated to relief and finally the feeling of being empowered. After getting stuck, or feeling like giving up, if we dig deep, focus really hard, maybe collaborate with others or simply by asking for help we finally reach the other side, which is SUCCESS!

English lessons



What a ride these last few months have been! More like a flight as time seemed to have flown by. It's hard to believe we managed to do so much in such a short time. Yet we have.

Year 1 and 2 have been putting huge efforts into learning to read. Although speaking and listening are also very important to us, we have made the acquisition of literacy skills our priority.

To see just how that is going, you are welcome to take a peek into our lessons through these videos:

Year 1:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1HYn6mEpki_L4_w nvNkTpJXDfFSZAjNIn/view?usp=sharing

Year 2:

https://drive.google.com/file/d/1zkGlxPFP6DVG_40 BTe5MXkLtBtJRUwVF/view?usp=sharing



In upper years, we focus a lot on speaking, grammar and writing. To ensure our kids don't lose interest, we have fun by acting out scenes from movies, playing silly word/sentence games and we will also be making our own interviews soon for a class talk show. Some students are reading a novel, *Superfudge*, and are learning about literary techniques, genres and writing for a variety of purposes such as inform, persuade and describe.

Learning about prehistory from archaeologists

At the end of November with our 5th and 6th graders we visited the Department of Archeology at the Faculty of Arts. Both groups had already discussed prehistory in their history classes but this time they had the opportunity to get a more detailed view about this period. After arriving at the university, we went to a lecture room, where we listened to a theoretical introduction to the different time periods of the prehistoric age. The students learnt about the life of ancient people: what tools they used, where they lived and what burial habits they had. Besides their presentation the archeologists also showed us several prehistoric objects and tools connected their lecture.



In the second half of our visit we had the chance to touch and have a closer look at the different artifacts excavated by the archeologists.

Although our visit was more like a university lecture, our students really enjoyed it and gained further knowledge and experience about the world of archeology.



Dear Parents,

Words cannot express how grateful we are to all of you for your generous contributions to our charity appeal. The three families we took your donations to were moved by your generosity and would like to thank you for making their Christmas delightful.



Judit's family: Dominik's smile



Mónika's kids showing us their puppies



Eszter's daughter with her new friend

We hope you enjoyed our Christmas show. Courtesy of Tamara Vukov, please welcome the photos she took of the event. Hopefully, you will take delight in browsing through the photos capturing our adorable kids' best moments.

Photos:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1qvDCMky YKiYebDsdXoNEr_M9goOG1bmg?usp=sharing

On behalf of our staff we wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Kind regards, Dóra Farkas and Róbert Gáspár

