



What an amazing start!

The way our first graders started their primary education bowled us over. Their behaviour and cooperation have been exemplary from day one, so no wonder they were given the Grade of the Month award in September.

IPC: Who am I?



Our first graders really enjoyed covering their first IPC Unit in Milepost 1: Who am I? They talked about what makes them happy, what groups they belong to and also practised drawing self-portraits. Moreover, they had the opportunity to copy the cubist style of Picasso, whose name they sometimes mispronounced as Pikachu.

Preschool



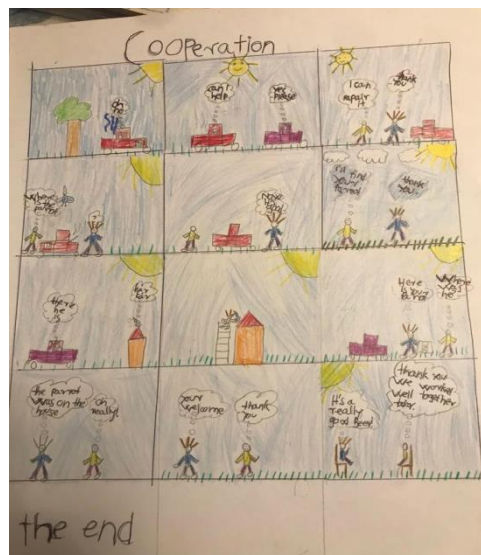
Preschoolers had a lot of fun with their first IPC topic "Who Am I?". They have learnt how to draw a self-portrait, how to recognize their feelings, how to cope with anger. We also talked about what makes us unique and what we like and dislike. In our English class we learned many letters: A, D, N, T, P, E. With the help of these letters, we can read some CVC and sight words now. These are: an, at, and, ant, net and pet. They are very excited about their growing ability to read.

We also talked about the nature around us. How trees change in the fall and what kind of plants grow in this changing weather. We have learnt about how we can grow mushrooms and tasted some delicious figs.



Native English

For the last month in Native English we have been looking at our 8 Personal Goals. They are: Respect, Morality, Thoughtfulness, Communication, Co-operation, Enquiry, Adaptability and Resilience. Through discussions and short films we are learning an overall understanding and gaining an insight into the value of having these important qualities in our lives. It's critical that children in their primary years learn the value of these qualities, while they are still developing cognitively and emotionally. They will have many experiences in this time period that will shape them to be the adults they will become.



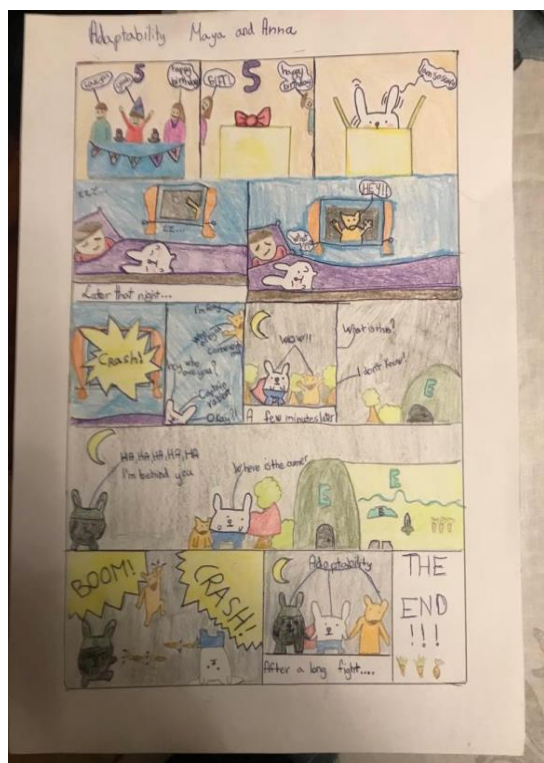
Matematika

Our students from Grades 5 and 6 seemed highly enthusiastic about the English version of the Mathematics coursebooks. They were searching for similarities between the English and the Hungarian version, and they were guessing how the name Hunor became Harry or Berci Brian.

During the classes we were counting and multiplying, trying to figure out who among us manages to walk maximum distances within 15, 30, 60, or 90 seconds. No matter how hard we tried, we could not achieve the records of step dancers.

Number line, number pyramid, roman numerals, commutativity, associativity, prime numbers, divisor, multiple, Sieve of Eratosthenes...what great knowledge!

Our lively debate is still the following: if Ben shows Zack a picture: "The son of this man is my father's son", then whose picture did Ben show to Zack?



We want to guide them and show them through positive examples that having these 8 qualities will help them to become happy and successful navigators and contributors in the world! The children in grades 2-6 have created their own comic strip depicting one of our 8 personal goals. We then collated them and bound them to create our own IPS personal goal comic book for our library.



IPC - Milepost Two: Do You Live Around Here?

In this unit our children have enjoyed learning about people, animals and plants, their habitats, migration and hibernation, classifying animals, photosynthesis, as well as food chains and food webs. There is clear evidence that 50% of people are visual learners, 25% auditory and 25% kinesthetic learners, therefore we approach each class with this in mind. Together we make visual posters, charts, watch short educational films, create with our hands while talking about our topics and go on trips in our local area. A few weeks ago we visited a local pond to explore in a kinesthetic way. The children were investigating living creatures and how they adapted to this habitat. Each child was given an important role to fill. Some were mappers, identifiers armed with magnifying glasses, artists who sketched what we found, documenters, photographers and even some botanists collecting plant samples! They were amazed at the different living (and dead) creatures we could find (including a VERY large toad!) We were then able to identify, research and classify our findings. Since this we have used our findings in multiple ways as a reference throughout further tasks and discussions.



Solar system, Warhol and the Silk Road... we had covered our first IMYC topic

In the 2019/2020 academic year we will be implementing the International Middle Years Curriculum (IMYC) of Fieldwork Education

programme in Grade 6. Although regarding the structure of the curriculum IMYC is similar to IPC (International Primary Curriculum) taught in Preschool and Grades 1-5, the content and pedagogical methods of the two programmes show differences.

While IPC focuses on certain project themes combining various subject learning goals, the subject learning in the IMYC is organised around abstract concepts called Big Ideas.



During the academic year, we aim to cover six IMYC topics as it is recommended.

Our first topic is Collaboration. The main idea of this topic is the following: if people work together, they manage to gain a common goal. All the learning goals for the subjects are connected to this Big Idea.

Implementing our Geography tasks, we discussed how commerce has been developing, and what kind of impact it has had on people's life throughout history. One of the main messages of this topic is that without collaborating with each other, it would be impossible to trade with each other. For example, even the simple act of buying some bread is made possible only by the cooperation of many different businesses and people. With regard to commerce and markets, we carried out an interesting experiment, and examined "whether sour cream is fake or not".



Our own board game



Our 6th graders designed a Happiness board game, which helps its players talk about themselves. After rolling the dice, they step on different squares asking them to talk about their favourite lyrics, their biggest fears, their best friends as well as their worst qualities they wouldn't mind trading off. No wonder they like playing it.

Robotics workshop at EPAM



On Thursday 17th October our students from Grades 5-6 took part in a robotics workshop "How robots tell us stories" at EPAM. During the event, the students were shown how literary works could be transformed into robots. The kids had a great time at the workshop, so we aim to organize similar events in the future to broaden their experience in academic fields.

Harry Potter Houses

On Friday 18th October Fanni and Arnold had launched a student competition among the four Harry Potter Houses, whose members are our Grades 3-6 students. The house receiving the highest scores until the end of autumn term will earn a reward. We would like to wish all of our students competing good luck!



Blogpost

During the Hungarian grammar classes, our students gained an insight into the world of blogposts. Being an active participant of the learning process means a huge motivation for students. Telling stories and experiences in writing greatly contributes to the development of communication skills. Feel free to check out our posts: <https://szegedips.blogspot.com/2019/10/tanulmanyi-kirandulas.html>

