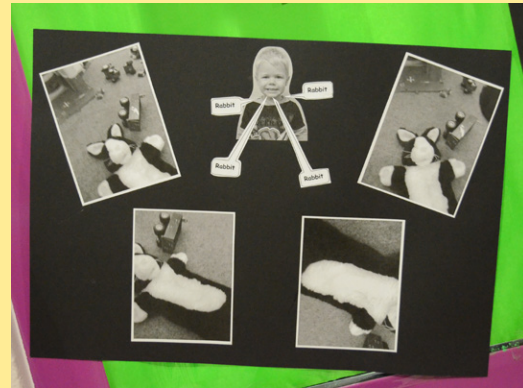


Early Years and KS1 Student Council Photo Exhibition

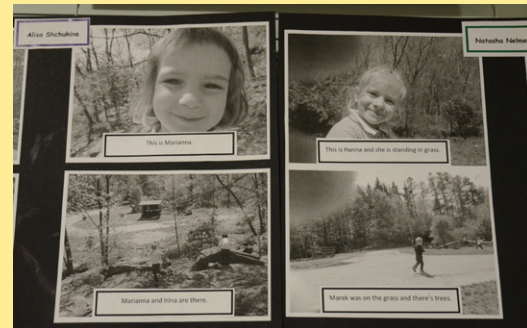
At the end of May the Early Years and Key Stage 1 held their final Student Council event – a photography Exhibition. Many great photos were on display - even this whole magazine dedicated to this exhibition wouldn't be enough! Here are only a few examples.

For our final event, the children focused on: 'What is important for me at my school?' and 'What do I like about my school?'. The children worked really hard on this project. They took photographs of their school environment themselves without any of the teachers' help. They chose the most important photographs from the ones they took and shared their views with some supporting comments.

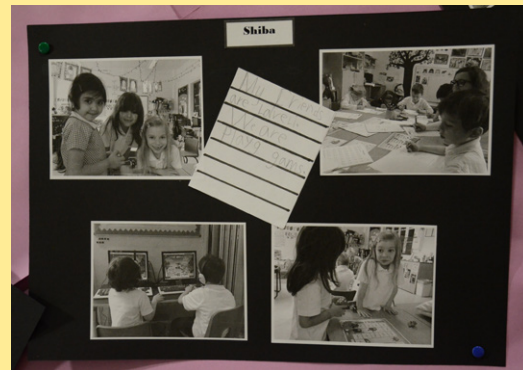


This gives us a chance to see what is important for children at school, their views about the school and interests. The children cannot, do not want or do not feel like always answering our questions. It is through the photographs taken by the children themselves that we can read and find out more about them. This proves that 'really listening' to children is one of the most positive and reliable teaching and learning approaches.

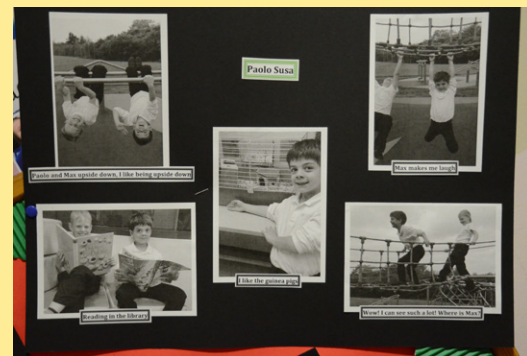
The Reception class goes on weekly walks to explore the outdoor environment. The children took their own fantastic photographs of this experience and made comments about them.



Year 1 were taking pictures of their friends during the day. It wasn't the classroom that they used as their photo studio however! After taking the pictures, the children wrote short comments about their pieces of work.



The children were asked to think about their time in EISP and particularly their time in Year 2. They thought about their friends, teachers, favourite things and favourite places in and around school. They were asked to take pictures using the class iPad and if they wanted to be included in the photographs then it was taken by Miss Zuzana. The photographs were then printed and mounted before the children were asked for their explanations for each image.



The World Scholar's Cup



On the 28th of February and 1st of March 2015, over a weekend, fourteen students from EISP competed in the Prague Regional Round of the World Scholar's Cup. This event involved many other schools from

Prague and even schools from outside of the Czech Republic: Romania and Turkey.

The WSC is a major international event which unites various school subjects and applies them to 4 different competitive events. Topics range from *Science: Liberating Technology* to *Social Studies: Worlds Together, Worlds Torn Apart* and students spent weeks preparing as much as they could and attending lunchtime workshops run by different specialist teachers. The coordinators of The World Scholar's Cup refer to the 'competitions' as more of a celebration of learning, and they certainly were very challenging.

Collaborative writing is where you debate with the power of your pen... You are given six statements, each from a different subject area, and asked to choose one to argue for or against. For example, the social studies questions was: "Today's bathroom signs (men and women) are sexist".

Scholar's Challenge contains various challenging questions which you have to answer individually.

Team debate is the most exciting part of the day. Scholars get into their teams containing three members each. They debate three different motions and teams. There are only fifteen minutes to research and fifteen minutes to debate.

Scholar's Bowl is when every team is in the theatre. Every team has a clicker and work together to solve wide-ranging questions and multimedia challenges within a time limit.

Even though this was the first time students from EISP have taken part in this event we did really well, ending the weekend with a whole pile of cups to take into school and medals to keep!

Next year we hope to take part again and perhaps organise a trip to the global round!

David, 14 years

What did the others think?

"It was one of the most interesting and exhilarating things I've ever done and I would love to go again!"

Alex, 14 years

"It was a wonderful opportunity to come out of my comfort zone and participate in something so challenging academically, but at the same time very unpredictable and fun."

Maneh, 17 years

"A truly wonderful and unforgettable experience in my life."

David, 14 years

Author's visit to our School

At the end of April the author of children's books Antony Winch came to our Václav Havel Theatre to give a talk about the History of Writing to our Year 4, 6 and 7 students. He also visited our Primary Library, where he gave a series of workshops to our students on Style and Language for Y6, how to create characters in writing to Y7 students and ways of creating plots and structure to our Y4 students.

"I liked the way Mr Winch talked about his books – with such a passion. I loved the story-dice game. It is played with a dice with pictures and then you need to create a story, first the ending and then you work your way to the beginning of the story. How interesting!" (Arthur, 9 years)

"Mr Winch's visit was very interesting and it helped me a lot. If I want to write a story in the future I will know how to plan every single part!" (Jan, 9 years)

"In one of the games we used a dice to choose a story, that was fun. Mr Winch told us a lot about his books. We had many questions and he was able to answer them all, I learned so much!" (Estelle, 9 years)



Photo: Lucia Novek

"Mr Winch taught us a lot about planning our stories. The dice game was so much fun." (Neyam, 9 years)

All the children agreed that they would like to see Mr Winch in school again as well as other authors. They agreed that Mr Winch helped them a lot with their story-writing and they would be excited for him to come back.



THE ENGLISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL PRAGUE
A NORD ANGLIA EDUCATION SCHOOL

Students' News
Summer 2015



Photo: Lucia Novek

From our Principal



Dear Parent/Guardian

I cannot believe that we are in June already and that the Summer break is advancing all too quickly upon us. I should start by thanking you all for a fantastic year where we have grown yet again and are looking forward to some fantastic results this Summer which will

again emphasise our position as the place for the highest quality learning in the city.

Our work with Juilliard begins in earnest this September and in addition to three of our students going to New York in June as part of the Global Orchestra, Ms Donaldson and Mr Coleman will also be in New York over the Summer for training and familiarisation with the demands of the new curriculum. We will also be hosting a number of concerts and master classes throughout the year for our music students to really accelerate their appreciation, understanding and enjoyment of music.

I also hope that you feel that the new structures we brought in last year (Heads of School and Key Stages) have been helpful in driving the school forward both in terms of improving what we do and adding further accountability to all areas of our work. From my perspective, those colleagues have added a further level of real rigour to our work as a school and our children have undoubtedly benefitted.

In addition to the excellent academic work which I believe will produce superb results across the entire school this year;

our work with the arts continues to develop in the school and I would like to extend my thanks to all those staff, students and parents who have made this improvement a reality. Certainly, whether one looks at the regular concerts, choir performances, sporting tours, 'Our House' production, LAMDA drama examinations, art exhibitions and sporting successes versus other schools we cannot but be impressed in how far we've come in a short time. However, there is always more to do and rest assured our plans to ensure we get even better next year are well underway!

I often talk of our school as a community and I hope you feel this as parents both in how we work with you and how happy your children feel in our school. Our wonderful PSP-led events perhaps sum up this better than I could but I know from speaking to you all how proud you are of the English International School, Prague. Whilst we as teachers share this pride in our pastoral care, academic achievement and the happiness of the children across the whole school, we know always that there is more we can do which is surely the feature of any top international school.

Over the Summer there will be some renovations and developments to include new musical practice areas as well as a few other surprises which I know will improve our school yet further. We are fiercely ambitious for your children and will strive to ensure that that in addition to further cementing our position in the city as the school of choice for so many families, we are ready to challenge ourselves to make our fantastic school even better for next year.

Thank you for your unswerving support as always.
Stephen

Shakespeare Week

The Shakespeare Week took place in March and was organised by the the English department. This offered the students in the entire school the option to dress as Shakespearean characters. The students were also involved in activities during tutor time and English lessons dedicated to Shakespeare. We asked them what they thought about it:

"We really enjoyed dressing up as Shakespeare characters. The assembly was so interesting and funny with the photos. I was dressed up as a witch, because there are witches in Macbeth. Our school loved the day and they will never forget about it. But sadly we couldn't have the Shakespeare day for ever." Sabina, 10 years

"I really enjoyed Shakespeare week because we did lots of fun activities in English." Alfred, 11 years

"I like everything about the Shakespeare week – the whole thing!" Alex, 10 years

"Shakespeare week was great as we got to dress up as our favourite character." Alan, 9 years

"I liked dressing up the most! I also enjoyed learning more about Shakespeare and his plays – mainly Macbeth!" Nicholas, 10 years



Photo: Lucia Novek

DOE trip to Český Ráj



On one weekend in March nine students went to Český Ráj for a whole weekend of Duke of Edinburgh Award training. Malika from Year 10 came along to catch up on training she missed due to her accident and so I very kindly came with her (and got LOTS of service hours!) The seven Year 9 students started their Bronze Award in January and finally had a chance to put into practice everything they had learned about maps and navigation.

I went to keep Malika company and to help the teachers with the first aid training and also to help Year 9 with their route cards. The students in Year 9 were really excited to be going on their first Duke of Edinburgh weekend! At 14.30 we left school to take the train to Turnov. As usual, we stayed in "Granny's" hostel in Roudný, a very quiet village on the hills above Malá Skála. That night, we went on a night hike up to Frýdštejn and had a lovely view of all the stars which we don't get to see in the city with all its bright lights. The teachers made each student take a turn at being the leader and working out which direction to take and give a grid reference.

Back at the hostel, they planned a route for the next day and spent about an hour completing a route card with grid references, altitude, estimated time and distance and possible hazards. Some of them were very good at doing the route card.

Saturday was bright and sunny. We left the hostel at 09.30 and went on a 10km hike. Along the route they learned about hazards of walking along a road in a group and every few minutes the teachers had to shout "single file!". Just like last year with Year 10!

The route took us along a narrow ridge in the forest and the loose stones and exposed roots were quite difficult to walk on,

especially if you didn't have proper hiking boots! Luckily, no-one sprained an ankle but Year 9 realised that if they planned to take a route like that on a wet day or were late and had to hike in the dark, it would be better to change the route and be safe!

Then we stopped for lunch and two students had a problem because they forgot their cooking pans! We got back to the hostel at 17.00, thirty minutes ahead of the estimated time. Everyone was really tired but managed to stay awake for an hour and a half of medical training with Miss Gully after dinner. Me, Malika and Mrs Hough-Robbins used fake blood and plastic to make it look like we had bad accidents with glass. The students had to treat us and we were pretending to be in shock or were hysterical! They will have to do more medical practice!

On Sunday we walked into Turnov to get the train back to Prague. On the way back all the students looked so tired! It was a great weekend and I hope the weather will be nice for us in May and June for our practice and final hike.

Varvara, 16 years



Our Primary Library



Photo: Lucia Novek

I started work as a Primary School Librarian two years ago. At that time I had no idea how I would cope with this new and very challenging work. All I knew was that I had the enthusiasm to do my best to be a good Librarian.

When I was child, my local Library was my second home. I spent many hours browsing between the aisles looking at the rows of beautiful and colorful books from which I could choose something. I recall that my favorite books at that time were children's detective stories, the Alfred Hitchcock mysteries and The Three Investigators series were my favourites.

My aim these days is to inspire children to take more of an interest in reading. The poetry and story competitions that we run give emphasis to this and encourage the children to use their imagination. I know my love of reading has helped me and has strengthened my resolve to write short stories myself.

Reading is an excellent way of opening up a child's mind to knowledge whether it be practical or a fantasy world and will always be encouraged in our EISP Primary School Library.

And here is what few of our students said about our Library:

What do you like best about our Library?

"The books." (Emma, 8 years)
"That there are books about nearly everything." (Mila, 8 years)
"It is peaceful." (Elsa, 8 years)
"Library is my favourite place, because it is quiet and calm." (Ela, 8 years)

To find out more about our books and programme, competitions, please find us on Facebook under EISP Primary Library.

Have a great Summer Holidays.

Miss Lucia
Primary Librarian

EISP Production: 'Our House'

'Our House' was one of the best musical productions EISP has ever produced! The whole cast was very privileged to work with the amazing coordinators – Director, Mr. Stewart; Music Director, Mrs. Donaldson; and Choreographer, Ms. DeLorenzo.

We practised for 7 months and all of the hard work was well worth it, including coming in at weekends. At first we all found it hard to dance and sing at the same time but after many practises we all managed it. Tomáš McKee, who played the role of Reecy says "I really enjoyed the play because I like the music, mostly ska music by Madness".

Lizi Liklikadze played an important role as Sarah "It was a great experience and it was my first time acting in a play. I had to do a lot of singing and had to learn voice techniques as well as how to act and express emotions."

I am sure that everyone enjoyed the play, we had lots of applause at the end. We had an unforgettable experience and we will always remember our performances.

I am looking forward to what the next year's EISP production will bring, but one thing is for sure; the next production will be even bigger and greater...
David, 14 years

David asked a few more of his fellow actors for their view:

"I had an amazing time in preparation for the play! All together it was a thrilling experience and I loved every moment of it!" (Natalia, 16 years)

"It was an unforgettable experience and we all enjoyed it. We had lots of fun while preparing it. It was quite hard but we managed." (Samanta, 13 years)

"I loved the whole experience and hope that in future I can perform it again!" (Luc, 13 years)

