



6th May 2023

Secondary News

A word from Mr Travis

Block 6 Week 5

Spring is here! I hope everybody enjoyed the public holidays and you are enjoying the fine weather on offer these past few days. I started the week with an assembly focusing on the environment and the importance of looking after our surroundings. The Earth is a finite resource and it is incumbent upon us to protect it for future generations. We are blessed at BISL to have such wonderful (and new) facilities and taking care of those facilities is a fundamental first step. Respect for our surroundings is one of the five BISL values - I hope that the colours of Spring will inspire us all to reflect on this message.

All kinds of weird and wonderful creatures came to BISL last week, courtesy of *Magical Beasts*, a Bled-based company offering unique experience and new insights from the world of exotic animals. From chinchillas to tarantulas, our students learnt a great deal about the history and future of these exotic species, making key links with environmental protection. Many thanks to the wonderful Ms Jones and the Science team for organising such a brilliant event during Science Block. Apparently we have a home-made rocket competition coming soon!

Many thanks to Mr Batson and his team for such a seamless start to the formal examination period. Come rain or shine, holiday or no holiday, we have staff working to ensure that the students receive a fair final assessment, the culmination of years of hard work and effort. Creating the perfect environment for these examinations is far more complicated than us mere mortals realise! Early reports from the students

suggest that the papers have been rigorous but fair, challenging but accessible. We continue to wish you all the luck in the world and hope that the rest of the examination period goes well.

We currently have four students from the International School of Trieste sitting their English as a Second Language paper at the school also. It is wonderful to be able to host these students at our Cambridge accredited centre. Long may this partnership with Trieste continue.

We have an action packed couple of months ahead. On Tuesday we are hosting a Brass Band Quintet from the British Embassy in Ljubljana. We are also busy planning our Adventure Days, Transition Day, Sports Day and so much more!

Please be sure to read the latest Update from the Principal and I wish everyone an enjoyable weekend.

Head of Secondary

Mr Jonathan Travis, Head of Secondary

Science block

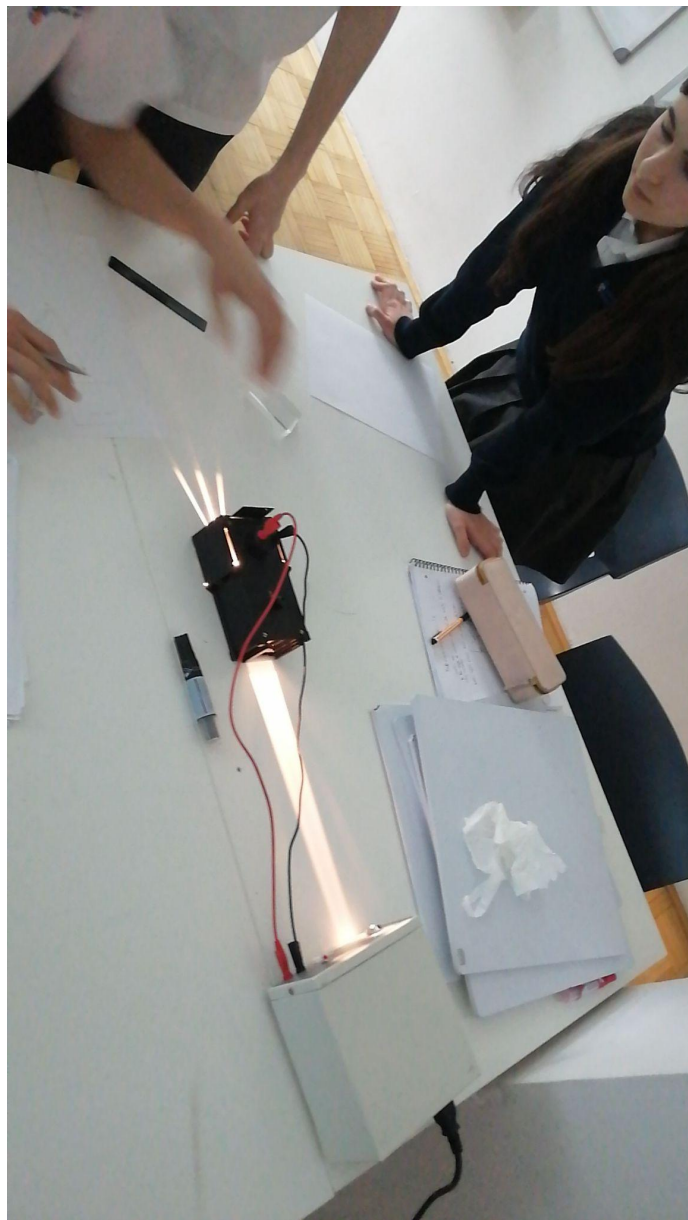
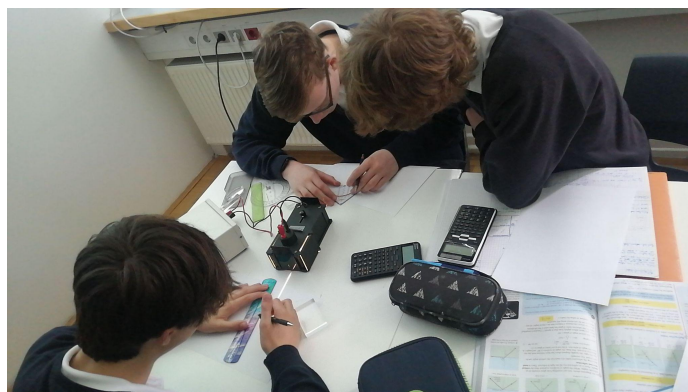
Fantastic beasts -

On Wednesday 26th April *Magical Beasts* came to BISL and delivered a very special experience for our primary and secondary students. *Magical Beasts* is the biggest reptile zoo in Slovenia, located in Lake Bled. They brought a variety of exotic snakes, lizards, turtles, spiders, insects, mammals and amphibians. The students learned interesting facts about each animal such as their habitat, diet and behaviours. The students especially enjoyed touching and handling animals they have never seen up close before! A truly fascinating and exciting experience was had by all. The *Magical Beasts* visit was one of many events

taking place as part of the science block designed to promote a curiosity and enthusiasm for science and nature.



Year 10 Physics students were learning how different types of lenses work and did an experiment where they measured the angles of refraction, critical angle in total internal reflection and made drawings to show how rays were bent by convex and concave lenses.



Second hand clothes drive

A reminder that during Science block we are holding a second hand clothing drive to promote sustainability. This is particularly important for the clothing sector as fast fashion has a significant negative environmental impact. There will be an empty plastic

box located within the entrance of the school with a clear sign showing where to donate. The second hand clothes will be donated to the charity “Društvo verjamem vate”, a charity that sells second hand goods to help people with disabilities become more included into society. Please donate any unwanted good quality second hand clothes, jewellery, books and shoes by the 5th May.

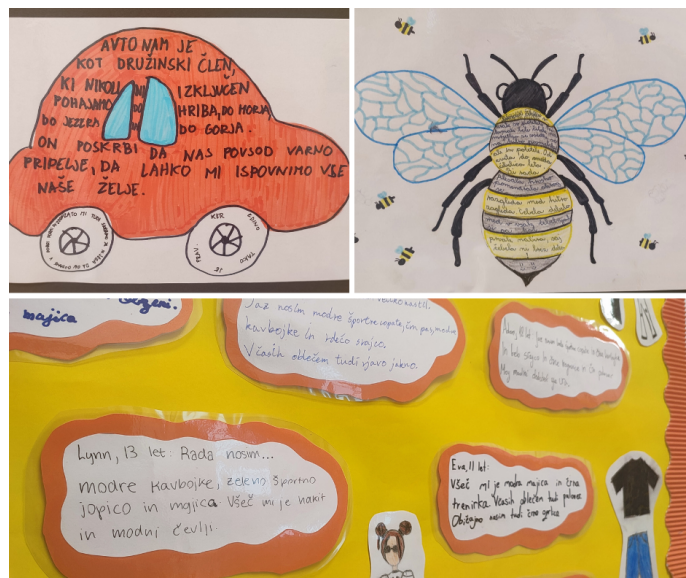
MFL News

MFL - Slovene

It is a pleasure to share the creativity demonstrated by our **Year 7** and **Year 8** Beginners as well as our **Year 8** Advanced students this week. The **Year 8** Advanced students embarked on an exciting journey to understand the structure of poems by creating shape poems. Through the use of different shapes, they were able to express their thoughts and emotions in a visually appealing way.

Meanwhile, our **Year 7** and **Year 8** Beginners students explored the world of fashion by learning about clothes and colors. This enabled them to develop their personal style, reflecting their individuality and personality. It was inspiring to see the students experiment with various clothing combinations and colors and express themselves through their fashion choices.

Ms Drogenik and Ms Kotnik



Ms Kotnik

MFL - Slovene Foundation

With the assessments just around the corner, it is time for our secondary students to start revising and preparing for the challenges ahead. However, revision doesn't have to be a boring task. Year 8 students have taken a creative approach to revision by creating their own board games as tools for studying.

The concept is simple: students design board games that cover topics they need to revise. The games are then played in groups, with players taking turns to answer questions or perform tasks related to the topics covered on the board.

We wish our students the best of luck and hope that the creative revision techniques will inspire others to take a similar approach to their learning.

Ms Jakup, MFL department

PE news:

During our PE lessons this week, we furthered our knowledge and understanding of striking and fielding skills, across a range of sports. Year 7 continued to work on their kickball skills, undertaking competitive gameplay scenarios, whilst Year 8 were exposed to competitive baseball, in team contexts. Years 9 & 10 continued to develop their understanding of competitive cricket, understanding the scoring systems used and learning the many different ways in which a batter can be given out.

Mr Hayes, PE Department

Maths news

Designing data collection sheets and questionnaires can be a challenging task for **Year 7** students, especially since they have to focus on gathering opinions rather than knowledge. However, with the help of technology, students can create effective and efficient questionnaires using Google Forms. By sharing their questionnaire with peers, students received valuable feedback on the clarity and relevance of their questions.



Year 8 students deepened their understanding of frequency tables for grouped data (both discrete and continuous), and were introduced to two-way tables. Two-way tables helped them visualise and analyse the relationship between two categorical variables, while frequency tables provided a way to summarise and organise large amounts of data.

Year 9 students solved a variety of real-life problems involving reverse percentages, increase and decrease by a percentage, and finance terminology. They engaged in a think-pair-share feedback task and provided peer improvements on sticky notes.

Through an independent study session, **Year 10** students recalled the four transformations: enlargement, reflection, rotation and translation. They used a self-study powerpoint with video tutorials and modelled examples. Lots of students were eager to investigate negative enlargements as well, which we will cover more thoroughly in **Year 11**.

Year 11 and 13 students are currently studying for their final examinations at home and attending booster sessions in school, where they consolidate their knowledge further, or simply solve past exam papers.

Maths challenge wall:

Check out new challenges posted next to the room 316.

Ms Zupanc, Maths Department

English News

Year 8 have begun creating their perfect town. This is the start of their journey to realising their own utopia. Over the course of the next few weeks they will populate their town with characters, create a tourist information unit, and defend their town from worrying changes to its landscape.

Year 9 have looked at the role of women in 1920's America and the changing landscape for them after World War I. They have reflected on how this context influences the presentation of Curley's wife in *Mice and Men*, and predicted what the future holds for her on the ranch.

Year 10 have considered the presentation of order and chaos, and power and responsibility in Boey Kim Cheng's *The Planners* and Atwood's *The City Planners*. They have successfully argued about how the changing and sanitisation of cities, including Ljubljana, is both a force for good and for bad.

Geography News

This week in Geography, **Year 8 and 10** have been studying the weather and learning how to read various weather instruments. To test their skills and knowledge we went to the rooftop of the new building equipped with thermometers, hygrometers, anemometers, smart watches with barometers and even a portable Stevenson screen! We are very fortunate to have some incredible views (great for estimating visibility!) and with the fantastic spring

weather we could see so much in all directions, from Ljubljana to the Julian Alps. But we needed to manage our distractions and keep our eyes on our equipment and, of course, the skies so that we could accurately measure, record, describe and finally start to explain the relationships between the various elements.



Performing arts news

Year 8 have been further developing their keyboard skills this week and have taken ownership of their own learning. They have chosen their own song to learn either in pairs or alone, working on their timing, coordination, teamwork and hand positioning.



In performing arts, **Year 9** have started to learn about Verbatim Theatre and how they can develop drama using real life interviews and conversations.

Dates to Note

Tues May 9th Brass Band Quintet performance

Fri May 12th Block 6 Ends - House colours Dress down day

Mon May 22nd Block 7 begins

Fri June 2nd Coffee with the Principal

Fri June 2nd International Day

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

School Contact Details

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Principal: principal@britishschool.si

School Calendars

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

