



# Secondary News

## A word from Mr Travis

### Block 1 Week 4

*"If it scares you, it might be a good thing to try" (Seth Godin)*

BISL students are taught to take risks in their learning, to flirt with failure and react positively in the face of difficulty. Genuine learning demands falling at the first hurdle and it is through failure that the most memorable experiences and new discoveries take place. We seek to inspire our students to be curious about the world around them and to see failure as a positive motivator. The journey counts more than the destination and jumping out of our comfort zone is the most enriching route to get there.

Nothing embodies this spirit more than the Adventure Days! Our intrepid Year 9 and Year 10 students have enjoyed a fantastic first day at Skocjan Caves, journeying deep into the bowels of mother nature. What incredible sights they have seen already. Day two promises to be equally adventurous with another cave trip and visit to Sneznik Castle. Thanks to the staff members who are carefully supervising and to Ms Fairchild for all the organisation. Our Autumn Adventure series will finish with Year 11, 12 and 13, due to depart next week.



Student leadership has been a dominant feature across the school this week. Following a series of presentations and interviews with the Principal, I am delighted to announce our new Head Students for 2022/23. Well done to Ewa, Julia and Anže - you are already fantastic role models for our younger students and the Senior Leadership Team look forward to working with you this year. BISL is a community organisation and students should be driving the change agenda to make the school a better place. Get ready for some meaty projects that will make a genuine difference! Form groups across Secondary have also been busy electing a brand new, fiery Student Council. Next week the Head Students will be assisting me to elect our new Prefect Team. Many thanks to Mr Malden for doing such a fantastic job in organising the various processes.

A big thank you also to members of the PTA for such an informative and energising meeting this week. It is wonderful to work with parents who want to make a genuine difference to this fantastic school and I

pledge my full support to all of your endeavours. Next week they will be meeting with our new Head Students to plan a series of events across the school. Parents who are not yet involved, please join us!

Finally, thank you to Mr Siter for the very informative EAL sessions delivered to Primary and Secondary parents this week. We are incredibly proud of our award-winning EAL provision here at BISL. EAL students at all levels make exceptional progress across the curriculum as a result of our rigorous tiered approach to language acquisition.

I will finish with a message to all parents. In Block 2, starting on Monday 3rd October, the Secondary School will switch to the [Standard Uniform](#) which includes a white shirt and tie. Sixth Formers will also be required to wear formal business dress. Please ensure that your child is ready for this change.

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

*Mr Jonathan Travis, Head of Secondary*

## Sixth Form news

### Psychology news

This week the psychology students played that classic game, guess which psychological term I am. With post it notes attached to their foreheads, students had to use insightful questioning to figure out what they were. This was a great way to revise and reinforce the knowledge given to them in the classroom.





Next week, on Wednesday 21st September, year 7 students will join the year 13 Mathematics students for a trip to the House of Illusions to learn about the magic of Mathematics and Physics and what role they can play creating fantastic illusions and tricks of the mind. I am very much looking forward to seeing the collective joy and amazement I will see on the faces of the youngest and oldest members of our secondary school.



## SUBJECT NEWS

### Maths Block

#### Maths News:

The Pi recital competition will take place on Tuesday 20th September at lunch time in room 509 in the new building. Who can beat our current champion Ewa in year 13 who recited up to 111 places. First place winner will win..you guessed it, a pie!

Year 7 students honed their skills of adding and subtracting integers and simplifying algebraic expressions in preparations for the upcoming quiz.

Year 8 students classified quadrilaterals and showed their knowledge through a round of Guess my quad.

Year 9 students reflected on their knowledge of algebraic expressions and furthered their progress through extension tasks.

Year 10 students demonstrated their study strategies in a student led study lesson.

Year 11 students worked really hard to improve their scores on MyiMaths. They also recalled the basics of Venn diagrams and extended the learning to complements of sets and problem solving.

Year 13 students learnt how to transform an exponential relationship into a linear using logarithms.



#### Mathematics trip -

#### Maths problem wall

Check out new maths problems for Key stages 3 and 4 in front of room 316 and 6th Form in room 509.

Year 11 students were split into groups and learnt about fractional indices and exponential equations through independent study sessions.

Year 13 students defined logarithms and their principles and laws, as well as applied the laws to solving logarithmic equations.



### Maths block:

Thank you for solving the maths challenges during morning form this week, we hope you enjoyed them! Coming up on **20th September** is the **Pi recital competition**. All Secondary students are welcome to participate and memorise as many decimals of the number  $\text{Pi} = 3.1415\dots$  as possible. Can you beat Ewa, last year's winner, who recited 111 decimals??

### Maths challenge wall:

Do not forget to check out new challenges on the wall in front of rooms 316 (for KS3 and KS4 students) and 510 (6th form students).

### Creative Arts news:

#### 7A introduction to mark making

For their "Elements of Art" project students in 7A were introduced to the technique of mark making. This refers to different lines, dots, marks, patterns, and textures we create in an artwork. It can be loose and gestural or controlled and neat. 7A were introduced to mark making techniques through the artist Alexis Fraser (also known as Lipstick Lex) who uses her lips as a form of mark making to produce artwork. In groups students then competed against each other to produce as many marks as possible in 2 minutes. To finish the lesson students explored the school grounds, using textures on found surfaces such as radiators, tree trunks and floors to investigate the different marks produced. In the upcoming lessons, students will apply a range of marks on their primary observational drawings to show form and texture.



## PETER PAN PRODUCTION SHOW AFTER SCHOOL CLUB:

After a very exciting Peter Pan audition for our whole school production show, both Primary and Secondary students have been actively engaging in after school rehearsals, studying their characters and learning their lines. We have been working on acting and vocal exercises to gain more confidence in our performances while building a character they play.

Recognizing different acting techniques, singing and dancing are just a few skills that are crucial for anyone involved in the Production Show After School Club.

We have asked some of our Primary students what makes a performance great and they all agreed that “being a confident actor, speaking loudly and being brave while playing your character” is something you require while performing in front of the crowds. Secondary students added that they really like being a part of a production that involves the whole school and it’s a fun thing that connects everyone.

Nika (Year 12) commented: “School can be sometimes overwhelming and stressful and I really like that I can be part of such a fun thing as a Production show, because it relaxes me.” To which Eva (Y12) added: “I love being a part of our Christmas Pantomime because it’s the famous story about Peter Pan which we all know and grew up with. Being in a play and acting is an interesting new skill that students can learn.”

## CHOIR AFTER SCHOOL CLUB:

We are happy to inform you that the Choir after school club rehearsals have started and everyone involved is very keen and eager to show their singing skills. We would like to inform you that we are now opening applications for choir for students from Y3 - Y13. We would be extremely happy for the participation of secondary students. It is a big privilege to have a choir as part of our school community and we are looking forward to all the events we can participate in throughout the coming year.

The choir rehearsals are on Friday from 15.00-15.40. If anyone would like to take part (especially secondary students) please email Mr Hulse via: [dominic.hulse@britishschool.si](mailto:dominic.hulse@britishschool.si)

## English News:

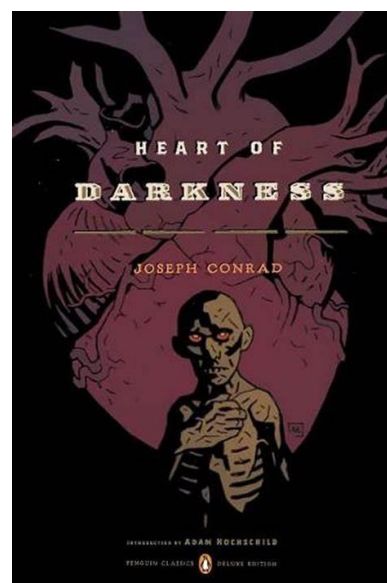
Year 7 worked on coming with some examples of similes and creating examples linked to their reading of the story “Stone Cold.”

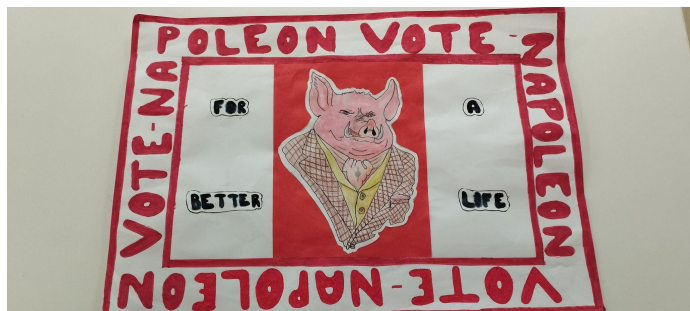
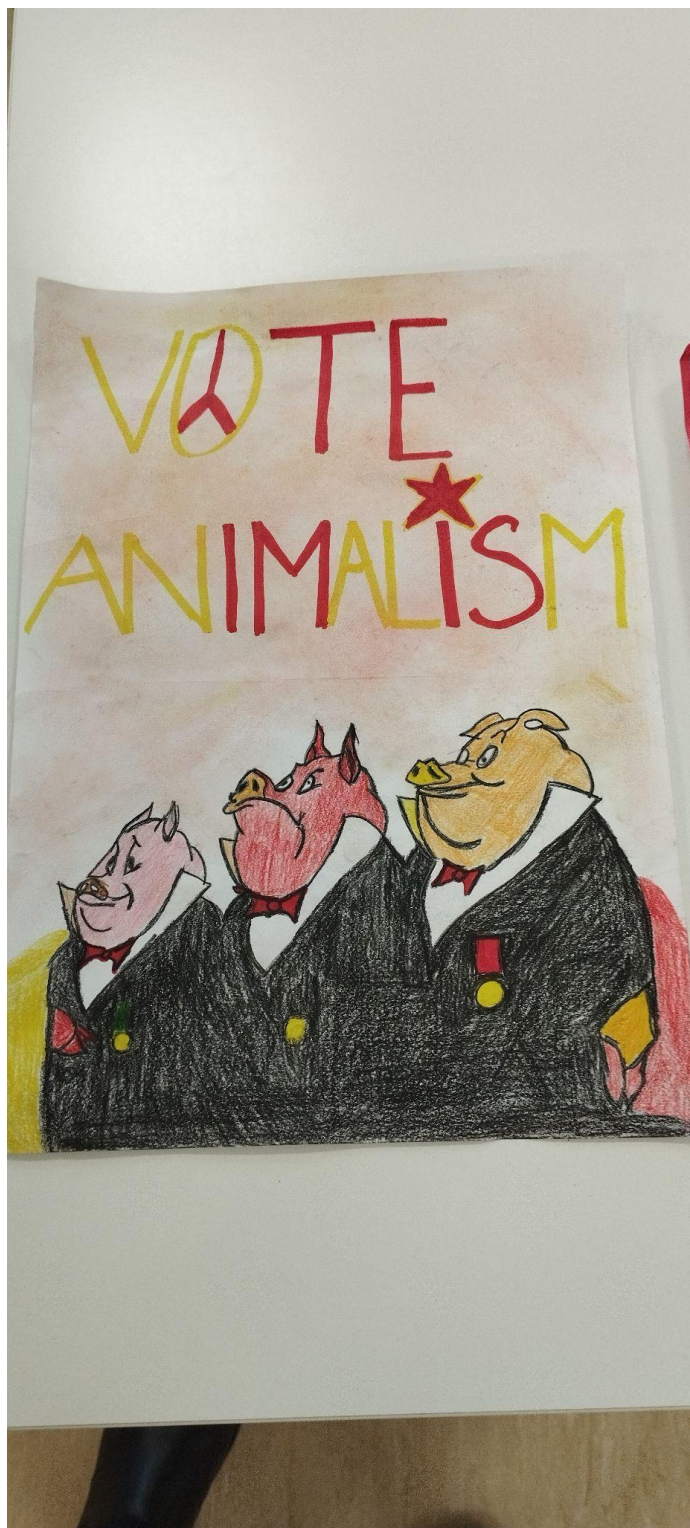
Year 8 wrote diary entries from the perspective of the character of Connor in addition to letters from the character Lily apologising for revealing the secret of Connor’s mother’s illness to Connor’s teachers and classmates as they continued “A Monster Calls”.

Year 9 created propaganda posters based on ideas from Geroge Orwell’s “Animal Farm” or the infamous “Room 311.”

Year 10 looked at the African-American vernacular and the use of non standard English as seen through the eyes of the play “Crumbs from the table of joy” by Lyn Nottage.

Year 11 spent the week analysing atmosphere in a range of fiction including Joseph Conrad’s “Heart of Darkness.” They also looked at a range of different narrative voices and used the 3rd person Omniscient voice to explain why they should leave for the lunch break at the end of the lesson.





## PE news:

### Week 4

During PE this week, students developed their fundamental skills within their specific net and barrier game, enabling them to work to the premise of being able to "Serve, Rally & Score". Conditioned playing scenarios were introduced in sports such as volleyball, tennis and badminton, to enable students to have exposure to playing each game and to understand the tactical implications each game carries and how employing certain tactics can contribute to success when playing net and barrier games.

*Mr Hayes, PE Department*

## Humanities news:

What are the Humanities? Why do we study them? How can they help us individually and as a society? These are some of the questions that Humanities students throughout the school have been considering as they delve deeper into various topics across the different subjects. As we learn more about the world around us and the role people have played in shaping it, we can start to appreciate the complex geographical, historical, economic and psychological processes that determine who we are and where we're going.



Our areas of study are wide ranging and interconnected. For example, in geography, Year 9 and 10 have been studying tourism and population, which are directly affected by economic development, systems and sectors, as well as the all encompassing power of globalisation, topics being investigated further in Year 10, 11, 12 and 13 Business studies, enterprise and economics.

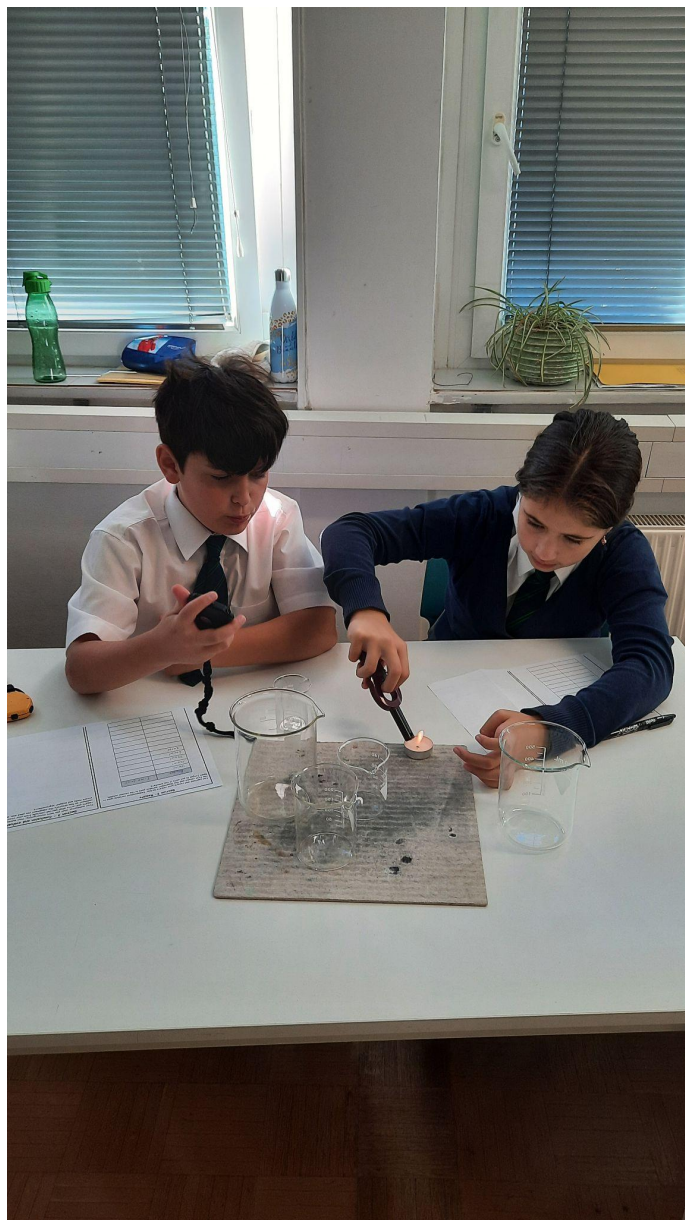
Humanities students are encouraged to make links and connections between their learning across the different subjects they study, and above all, think critically about the world around them and how it has developed. With all that we know, how can we shape the future to be fairer, kinder and more sustainable?

I look forward to further celebrating geography, history, computer science, economics, enterprise, business studies and psychology in our Humanities block starting in October.

*Mr Bradley and the Humanities Department*

### Science News:

This week Y12 students were testing for biological molecules, specifically reducing and non-reducing sugars. Miss Jones prepared the solutions for the practical herself and it all went very smoothly. Y7 students, on the other hand, were doing a whole practical investigation. They first learned what a practical planned their practical in groups, then carried it out, and finally plotted a graph of their results and made a conclusion. It was challenging but they all succeeded.





In Y8 we are learning about the differences between "umetnostno" and "neumetnostno" besedilo (text). The students read a text about the ship Rex - the largest and fastest Italian ocean liner of its time, which sank in the bay between Izola and Koper. The students had to write a text and prepare a presentation about other sinking ships around the world and it was great to see their writing and presenting skills.

*Ms Kotnik - Slovene Team*

## Student Article - Science

### Introduction

Hello, my name is Anže, I am a student currently studying in Year 13. I have a great personal interest in science and engineering and would like to share that passion with others by spreading awareness about the major breakthroughs and technological advancements, every week in the school newsletter

### How your unfinished lunch may be used to fuel planes in the future

As the world becomes more weary of the plethora of issues associated with climate change as well as its potentially catastrophic consequences, scientists strive to find ways to decarbonise industries and the world as a whole. Highlighted as a problematic emitter, is the global aviation industry, which accounts for 2.1% of all human carbon emissions. Another issue, mainly faced in first world countries is the amount of food that is thrown away, with the average American family discarding a third of the food they buy. This sums up to about 113kg of food a year. Luckily, scientists have found a way to reduce the amount of carbon emissions by flights as well as make food that has been thrown away less of a waste.

To turn food waste into jet fuel, scientists collect a fluid from decaying food waste, which contains volatile fatty acids, or VFAs for short. These VFAs can then be vaporised, and then connected into longer chains called ketones, in the presence of zirconium oxide. The ketones are then condensed and in another reactor are mixed with platinum pellets. This results in oxygen atoms being removed from the ketones and the ketones being linked together to form kerosene, also known as jet fuel. This is only one of the processes that can be used to source kerosene more sustainably, for example some companies are

## MFL News:

### Slovene Foundation

Y9 students in Slovene Foundation have been learning about adjectives and how masculine versions are different from the feminine ones. This was also a good way to spread the vocabulary and learn the new words. Students will also use this knowledge when describing a person.

*Ms Drogenik*



converting garbage into ethanol and then upgrading into jet fuel.

These environmentally friendly fuel alternatives are known as SAFs or sustainable aviation fuels and the technology is promising, but not yet perfect. For starters SAFs are three times as expensive as kerosene derived from petroleum and currently only about 100 million litres of SAFs are produced per year, while the aviation industry as a whole consumed over 360 billion litres in 2019 alone. Despite this SAFs have been mixed with kerosene in jet fuel tanks since 2008 and lawmakers as well as airlines are committing to SAFs as a way to lower the skyhigh emissions currently resulting from air travel, hopefully creating a cleaner environment for us all.

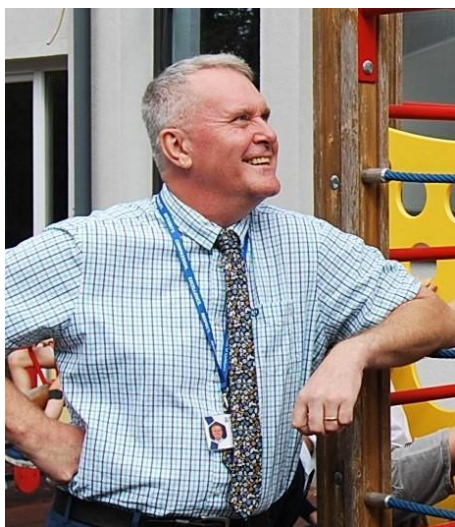
## Latest Covid Guidance

Please check the latest updated guidance for Covid 19 here

Updated webpage:

<https://britishschool.si/news/2021/covid-19-update-from-the-principal>.

## Principal's Update - Sept 16th



Dear Parents and Families,

I write this update in my office as the rain continues to fall heavily outside. I have certainly seen a new side to weather in Ljubljana from the previous months of bright sunshine. It does seem that wherever we live in the world, we are experiencing increased weather most recently. We are fortunate here to have avoided

the most serious consequences of this changing weather. Others such as those who live in Pakistan and Australia have sadly had more challenges. I am sure we all hope that things settle into a more predictable pattern once again.

I have received some great pictures of the Y9 and Y10 adventure trip. The trip has offered up outdoor activities, a visit to a military park as well those important moments for social bonding during breaks and meals. Thanks indeed to all the BISL staff who have led and managed these expeditions, with special mention to Ms. Fairchild Gojkovič who has organized all of the adventure trips for all Secondary students to enjoy.



### Student Collection:

Please can I remind everyone that student collection time is either 2.55pm (after the end of lessons) or 3.40pm (after activities). Please do ensure that you collect your children on time every day. Our staff

often have meetings and other work to attend to after the children have left school, so it does help us considerably if you arrive promptly. Of course, we understand if you are delayed on one-off, unavoidable occasions. In advance, many thanks for your consideration.

### Head Students

I have had a particular pleasure this week as I have been involved in the interviewing and selection of those students being considered for student leadership positions in both Secondary and primary school. This is always an interesting and informative experience.

For example, the ideas put forward or discussed included peer to peer student mentoring, sports leadership, environmental education and development of the school (woodland, energy, food waste) as well as an increased amount of community service and volunteering – all meaningful and important.

Congratulations to the School Head Students – Ewa, Anže and Julia who were appointed this week, and good luck to the Primary candidates who will find out more next week.

Have a great weekend and stay dry!  
Best wishes,

*Matthew Cox, Principal*

## Dates to Note

Tues	Sept 20th	Maths block - Pi recital competition
Weds	Sept 21st	High Achievement Presentation for Parents
Thurs + Fri	Sept 22nd+23rd	Adventure Days Yr 11,12 and 13
Fri	Sept 23rd	End of Block 1
Fri	Sept 23rd	House colours - Dress down day

Mon Oct 3rd Block 2 Begins

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

## School Contact Details

Reception Hours: M-F 07:15-16:00  
General Telephone: +386 40486548  
Admissions: +386 40618356  
General Enquiries: [enquiries@britishschool.si](mailto:enquiries@britishschool.si)  
Accounts: [accounts@britishschool.si](mailto:accounts@britishschool.si)  
Principal: [principal@britishschool.si](mailto:principal@britishschool.si)

### School Calendars

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

