



Secondary News

A word from Mr Travis

Block 4 Week 5

Our final week of the block has been a busy, yet immensely satisfying one. Many thanks to Mr Astbury who ably led a **Year 7** trip to Ljubljana Castle on Monday, despite the freezing temperatures! We are so lucky to have such wonderful history so close by, to inspire and motivate our learners. Bringing learning to life through experience and application is proven to embed new learning in the long term memory of students. Trips such as these expand a students' knowledge schema, enabling them to make connections with new information and experiences in the future. We always try to make new learning memorable.

Many thanks to Mr Cox for leading an assembly on the BISL Values this week, guiding students to consider their responsibilities as BISL students as well as global citizens. Students were invited to reflect on the benefits of expectations, rather than rules, and the benefits that this approach attributes to the entire community. We seek a kind, honest and collaborative community that demonstrates compassion and togetherness. These values build a learning culture that inspires all stakeholders to find joy in learning and make rapid progress.

I was lucky to visit the Britannica International School (Orbital) in Budapest earlier in the week, forging new connections with the leadership team. Such collaborations with other Orbital schools enable the sharing of knowledge and expertise that benefits both

sides. We hope to welcome teachers from Britannica to BISL before the end of the year.

Thank you to Mr Batson for hosting the Year 12 parents at a meeting this week, to discuss an action plan following the mock examinations. Responding to the results of assessment, whatever the result, is the key to ensuring future success. At BISL, we aim to provide a personalised approach to every individual student, guiding them to specific steps that will improve their learning over time. We do hope that students who underperformed will seek to reflect on the result and work with teachers to address any gaps.

Finally, well done to Ms Fairchild - the last Winter Adventure Day took place on Friday. Gleeeful smiles and fun in the snow all round! BISL students are resilient, determined and compassionate - these are characteristics that are nurtured by our adventure day programme and will help students succeed in the future.





WORLD BOOK DAY

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

Mr Jonathan Travis, Head of Secondary

English block - Block 5

Next block is English block and we plan to celebrate World Book Day in style. We encourage all students to get into the spirit by coming to school dressed as a character from a book. Whether you fancy yourself as the hungriest of caterpillars, a Hufflepuff hero or the most flamboyant of Mad Hatters - now is your chance to shine.

The event will coincide with our Pust celebrations on **21st February** so start planning your fantastic outfits soon. We look forward to seeing what you come up with.

The English Department

Dressing up ideas



Modern Foreign Languages block

MFL - Slovene Foundation, Intermediate, Advanced

The Y11 Slovene Advanced class has recently started reading Vladimir Bartol's novel "Alamut." The novel, set in the 11th century, is known for its captivating story and thought-provoking themes of power, freedom, and morality. The students are eagerly engaging with the text, sparking meaningful discussions in class.

"Alamut" promises to be a rich and exciting journey for the Y11 Slovene Advanced class. We are looking forward to exploring the novel's themes and characters in more depth.

On the 8th of February we are celebrating Slovene Cultural Day, more precisely, our greatest poet, France Prešeren. Aleksandra, a Year 9 Slovene Advanced student, recited Prešeren's famous poem "Povodni mož" in its entirety.

Aleksandra has worked hard to memorize all 14 stanzas of this complex and beautiful poem, and her classmates were very impressed by her dedication and skill. This recitation will not only be a highlight of Slovene Cultural Day, but it will also serve as her *bralna značka* (reading mark) assignment.

job including interesting features, and using some difficult Slovene words. *Odlično!*



In Y13 students had a discussion about their plans for next year when they will go to university.

After that they prepared presentations about a country where they will study. They did a really good

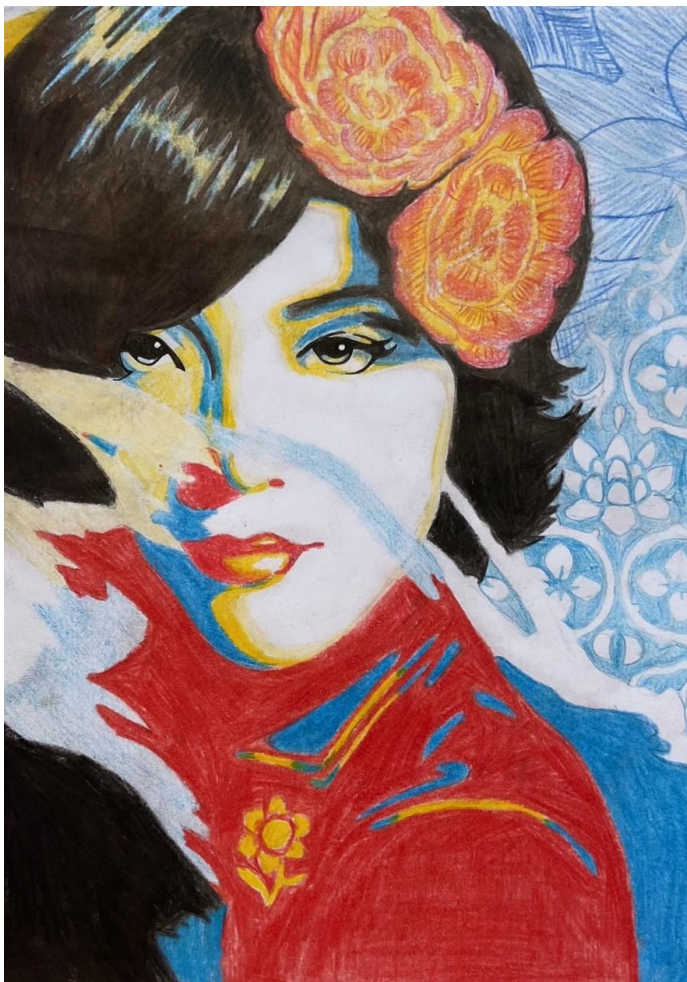


Ms Kotnik, Ms Jakop and Ms Drofenik

Creative Arts News:

To complete their street art project, students in 8B researched their favourite street artists and presented them to the class. Students had to form opinions about the work using key art terminology, including an artist copy in the material of their choice. We learnt about the work of Artur Bordelo, Shepard Fairey and many more. Great work 8B!





Year 9 "battled" with the War poetry of Siegfried Sassoon, but ultimately improved their understanding of it.

Year 10 wrote speeches on things they were passionate about including various topics such as fishing, the benefits of writing and "Checkers vs Chess."

Year 11 created "Whooshes" from scenes revising "Crumbs from the table of joy."

PE news:

In our PE lessons this week, we concluded our sporting units by completing some organised competition across all year groups. Year 7 focused on gameplay and tactical understanding when playing 3 vs 3 basketball, whilst Year 8 took part in a handball round robin tournament. Year 9 concluded their floor hockey unit with a competition, whilst Year 10 took part in a football tournament and Year 11 played some competitive ultimate frisbee and volleyball matches.

Mr Hayes, PE Department

Maths news

UKMT

On Wednesday, students from 8 to 11 took part in the UKMT International online competition. This competition requires students to apply their Mathematical abilities to a variety of complex situations and scenarios. It was an excellent way for students to challenge themselves and display excellence which no doubt we will see when the results are released in the near future. Well done to all the students involved.



English News:

Year 7 finished writing their scripts based on the 1908 silent movie version of "The Tempest."

Year 8 were, despite the constant foreshadowing earlier in the play, extremely moved by the tragic fates of Eddie and Mickey in Willy Russell's "Blood brothers as they reached the finale of the play.



Mr Batson, Assistant Head

Key stage 3 students learnt how to derive formulae to represent worded and geometrical problems. They also learnt how to substitute numbers into formulae. Additionally, **Year 9** students mastered rearranging formulae in order to change the subject. To end this block, Key stage 3 students solved a crime mystery where they had to put their substitution skills to the test in order to identify the culprit.

Year 10 students listened to a lesson about parallel lines and their equations, delivered by a Year 13 student, Anže. He then supported the students through a Kahoot and a matching cards activity.



Year 11 students learnt about congruent and similar shapes and sat in their mock reflection test this week. They RAG rated their skills in the topics covered so far to help them identify their specific targets. After the break, we will revisit straight line graphs and angle properties in order to clarify the techniques used to solve more difficult questions.

Year 13 students learnt about position, direction and displacement vectors in three dimensions and solved differential equations with Mr. Batson.

Maths challenge wall

See you after the break with new challenges posted in front of room 316.

Ms Zupanc, Maths Department

Principal's Update



Friday 3rd February 2023

Dear Parents and Families,

Coffee with the Principal

Thanks very much to those parents who took the time to attend this morning's Coffee with the Principal event. It was good to be able to share some updates on our planning for next year and the implementation of the School's Development Plan. Also, of course as a part of a healthy community, to hear from our committed parents some balanced views on what we can review in order to be even better; whether that be at a macro, whole school level or in particular, specific areas of the school.

We spoke a great deal about staffing and talent acquisition and a good question was asked around the profile of the teachers we will be attempting to recruit in the future. The answer was a resounding 'great' teachers wherever we can find and attract them but also with a

continued emphasis on getting British, experienced, fully qualified teachers to be at the heart of the school. Every international school requires excellent teachers recruited locally and other places but at a British School we recognise equally the need for outstanding British teachers too.

Thank You Tjaša P

I write on behalf of our community to thank Tjaša for all her excellent work with Performing Arts (and other areas of the school) as she leaves BISL today to pursue her career in the glamorous world of Performance.



Personally, I have only known Tjaša since August when she willingly stepped up into a full teaching role and has remained successfully in that position ever since.

Tjaša has made an outstanding contribution to the school's Performing Arts Department, and especially for the Peter Pan Production, where she utilised her professional skills and knowledge superbly to support our students. I know they are exceedingly grateful to have the opportunity to learn from Tjaša.

We know that there will be further opportunities to see Tjaša at BISL in the future. We are discussing the possibilities, and of course we

hope that she will be able to come and support 'High School Musical' in some capacity.

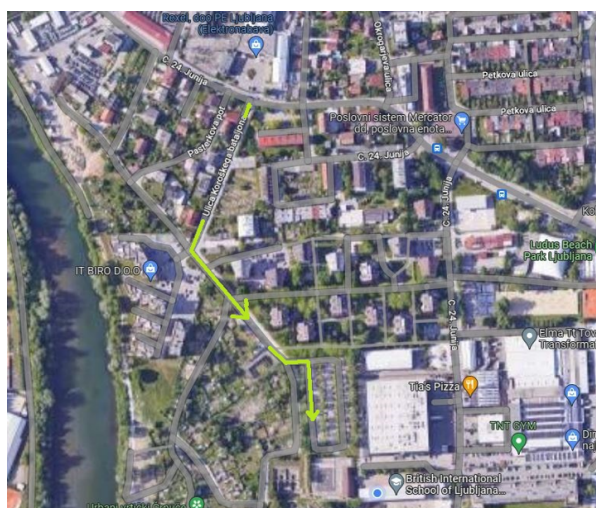
Traffic in School

Important and urgent request

I write again to urge all families and their drivers to take great care when driving into or around school.

For everyone's safety we ask that the school parking is only used for dropping off and picking up of children (no staying), and that the **speed limits are strictly adhered to**.

We strongly recommend that parents use the public parking right next to the school that can be accessed via Ulica Koroškega Bataljiona (see map below). There is a gate from the parking that allows direct access to the front of the school.



In addition, to further support traffic safety we have also been in discussion with our neighbours to adapt the parking area in order to allow for a better flow of traffic. More information on this in the near future. Thank you in advance for your consideration and support of this important safety matter.

BISL Parent Survey

Finally, I write to provide you with advance warning that the BISL Parent Survey will be released to all families on Monday 13th February (after the school holiday). Along with the recently completed Student Survey (Year 5 to Year 13), the parent survey provides us with excellent insight into both the strengths and areas of

development for the school. Please do undertake the survey once the link is published. The survey is normally open for approximately two weeks. Thank you.

Best wishes for a lovely block break,

Matthew Cox
School Principal

Dates to Note

Mon	Feb 13	Block 5 begins
Friday	Feb 17th	BISL Open Day
Friday	Feb 17th	BISL Art Exhibition
Friday	March 3rd	Coffee with the Principal
Tues	March 7th	BISL at Oxford University Computing Challenge
Friday	March 24th	Block 5 ends

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

School Contact Details

Reception Hours: M-F 07:15-16:00
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General Enquiries: enquiries@britishschool.si
Accounts: accounts@britishschool.si
Principal: principal@britishschool.si

School Calendars

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