



Secondary News

A word from Mr Travis

Block 2 Week 1

Welcome back to all our students and their families after a well-earned block break. I hope you are feeling energised! All students are certainly looking the part this week, with full winter uniforms now being worn. Our Sixth Formers are looking impeccably dressed in their formal business attire. While our uniform policy may not be the norm here in Slovenia, we feel it contributes to the culture of high expectations that we are striving to instill in all aspects of school life. I think the students secretly like it too!

Block 2 is all about the Humanities - subjects that help us understand each other through language, history and culture and that help foster social justice and equality. They teach us to deal critically with subjective, complex and imperfect information, a skill that is crucial in the complex modern world. Thank you to Mr Malden for providing us all with 'On This Day in History' every morning - he himself enjoyed celebrating his birthday alongside the Battle of Cable Street, 1936! Trips aplenty await our students, with a Year 9 Geography field trip heading to Ljubljana on Monday and a Year 8 Computer Science trip to Racunalniski-muzej Ljubljana planned for November. Mr Bradley is also planning Geoguessr and Seterra Competitions throughout the block, so thank you to him in advance.

It was wonderful to see Year 11, 12 and 13 students engage in the UKMT Senior Online Mathematics Challenge this week. The 90 minute challenge tested the participants ability to draw upon all areas of their Mathematical knowledge and apply it in novel and interesting ways, in order to solve complex problems. Fingers crossed for the many Gold, Silver and Bronze awards that hopefully await our students.

On Friday we were delighted to celebrate Teacher Appreciation Day! Our Heads Students and Prefects have been working hard alongside the PTA to deliver a full sit-down breakfast for our teachers, with students across the school showing their appreciation through their artwork and messages. Teachers really are so often the unsung heroes of many students' educational journey and this important event has hopefully demonstrated how much we appreciate their time, effort and relentless desire to help students succeed. Thank you from all of us!

Following the success of our Adventure Day series, next week all secondary students will take part in the Swim Days at Atlantis Water Park. These days are an integral part of the PE curriculum and we do hope that students enjoy them. Thank you to Mr Cerni and MS Fairchild for all the organisation.

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

UKMT Senior Online Mathematics Challenge

This week students took part in the UKMT Senior Online Mathematics Challenge. Members from year 13, 12 and 11 took part in the 90 minute challenge which tested the participants ability to draw upon all areas of their Mathematical knowledge and apply it in novel and interesting ways in order to solve complex problems. We wish them all the best for their results and hope to see more gold, silver and bronze awards such as the many we saw in last year's challenge.



English News:

Year 7 looked at the author's technique of using short sentences. They then wrote their own short descriptive sentences about the character of Link from "Stone Cold" and the trauma he suffers by finding himself homeless.

Year 8 - Have been looking at the Monster's stories in "A Monster Calls", in particular they created a fantastic dramatic retelling of the story of the Prince and the Queen. The plays were incredible to behold including brilliant low budget visual effects and hand made costumes.



Year 9 looked at Stalin's Purges and studied how Napoleon's reign of terror has increased to dramatic effects in "Animal Farm."

Year 10 - Have been acting out parts of "Crumbs from The Table of Joy" including the meeting of Godfrey and Gerte on the bus. They also analysed the symbolic significance of Godfrey's shoes. They carried out a fantastic online debate into whether we had any sympathy with Lily or not.

Year 11 - Having finished unseen poetry and prose, Year 11 have moved on to studying Purple Hibiscus. They started this week by looking at British colonialism in Nigeria, the Nigerian state following independence, the culture of the Igbo, and lastly the influence of Christianity in Nigeria. They also watched Adichie's "The Danger of a Single Story" as a lens for which to view the novel.



PE news:

Week 5

This week we introduced a competitive element to lessons, as well as introducing some new sporting

themes. Year 7 continued to develop their technical and tactical understanding of tennis, whilst Year 8 took part in some badminton doubles match play. Year 9 explored some of the more tactical elements of singles and doubles when playing tennis and badminton, with Year 10 and 11 developing their volleyball match play skills.

Mr Hayes, PE Department

Maths news

Year 7 students worked in pairs and solved a mini murder mystery by calculating unknown angles in triangles and quadrilaterals. They were also introduced to various types of these shapes.

Over the break, **Year 8** students drew nets and created gorgeous solids that are now on display. This week, they demonstrated their knowledge of fractions through a study session and showed excellent peer on peer support.

Year 9 students also worked with fractions through MyiMaths and learnt how to divide them using the Keep-Change-Flip method.

Year 10 students discussed key concepts of money and finance. They were keen on learning the difference between gross and net pay, as well as how simple and compound interest work.

Year 11 students learnt how to factorise the difference of two squares and quadratic expressions. They really worked hard and showed great understanding.

Year 13 students were introduced to reciprocal trigonometric functions. They recalled trigonometric identities and various methods of solving equations and proving inequalities.

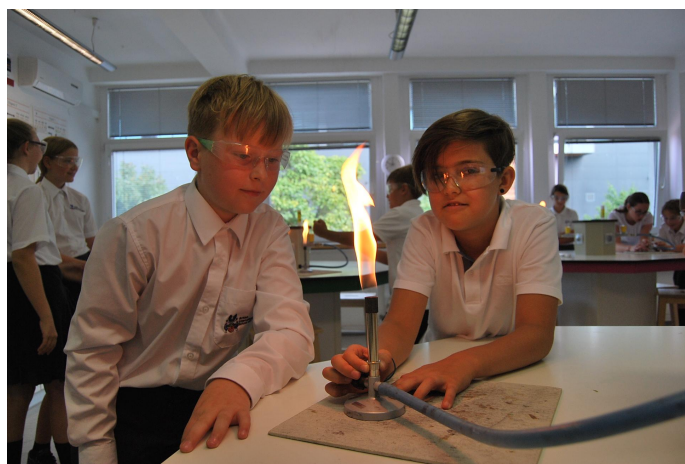
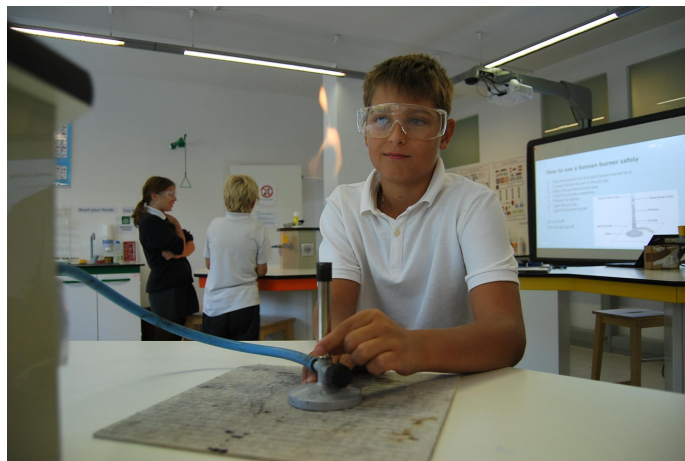
Maths challenge wall

Year 7A and 8A students have been enjoying solving the weekly challenges during breaks and lesson transitions. Well done! There are new challenges for all levels published every week in front of room 316.

Ms Zupanc, Maths Department

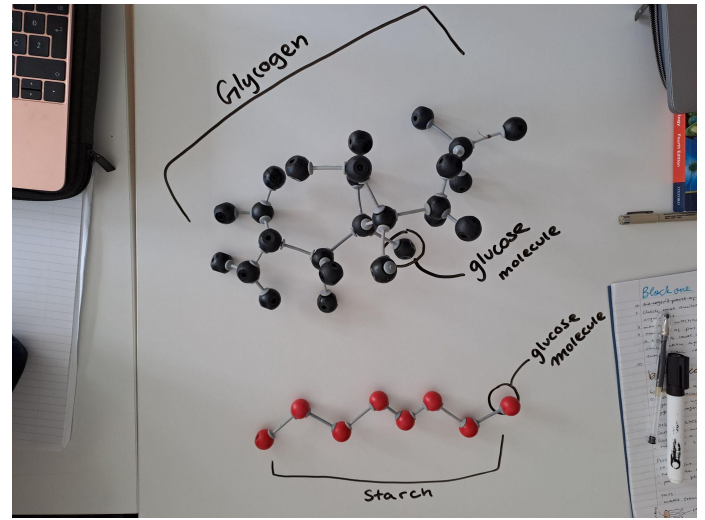
Science news:

Just before the block break Y9 students practically investigated density, Y7B students learned how to use a microscope and Y7A students had some fun when investigating chemical reactions. They created colorful flames by burning different metal powders.



This week year 7 students investigated how temperature affected how easily salt dissolved within water, and learnt the importance of different variables within investigations. The year 13 students were doing a practical in which they investigated how does the inclination of the slope affect the travel time of a small car.

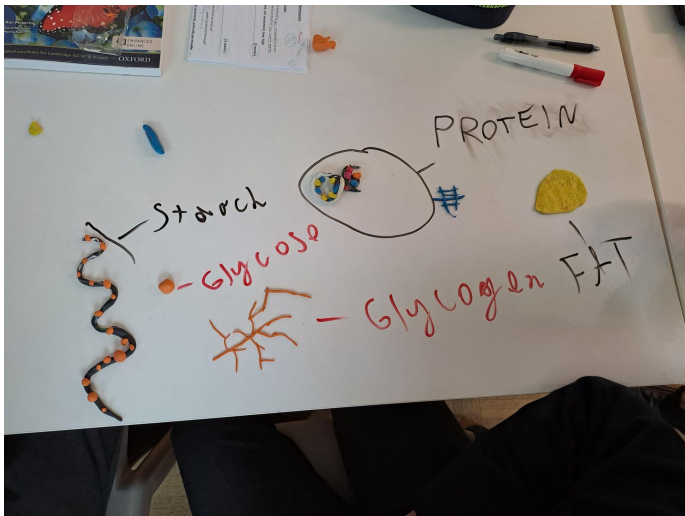
Also included here are some photos from year 10 biology where students made models of biological molecules (proteins, carbohydrates, fats, DNA).



MFL News:

Slovene Foundation

Year 7 students at Slovene Foundation have been learning about school equipment and school premises. They were acting dialogues asking questions *A je tukaj knjižnica? Kje je učilnica?* and answering with *tukaj* or *tam*. The students now know some new words and are already looking forward to next week, when they will be able to show their creativity by drawing a map of the school premises.



Y7 Slovene Adv. students started reading the book "Zeleno jezero." They got to know the main character Stanley and the setting. Please have a look at some of their drawings.



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

Why NASA is intentionally crashing spacecraft into rocks in space.

The danger of comets and asteroids crashing into the earth, ending humanity as a result, is a popular plot for sci-fi action movies, it is also a real concern of NASA and other space agencies. This is why NASA scientists have been developing methods of protecting the planet from dangerous space rocks. While you may think that there must be some complicated solution to derail the path of an asteroid, NASA's current mitigation technique for protecting the planet is smashing spacecraft into asteroids.

Thus DART was born. The double asteroid redirection test is the world's first planetary defence technology demonstration. After 10 months of flying in space the vending machine sized spacecraft crashed into the football field sized asteroid Dimorphos, at a speed of about 22,530km an hour. Dimorphos is a moonlet asteroid which orbits the larger Didymos and the purpose of DART is to see if the collision will change the orbit of dimorphism in any way. Scientists expect the orbit of Dimorphos to decrease by about 1%, but the success of the test will still need to be determined in the coming months, as scientists observe the impact.

DART is a first of its kind test of planetary defence with the crash being streamed live and recordings can be found online. The James Webb and Hubble telescopes have also captured images of the collision, while another telescope has captured images of the debris trail which spans 10,000km. These images are proof of the incredible capabilities of modern technology where experiments can be carried out 11 million kilometres away from earth, while being recorded and live streamed. NASA's director of planetary science describes the event as "Embarking on a new era of mankind, an era in which we potentially have the capability to protect ourselves from something like a dangerous hazardous asteroid impact"

Demonstrating how important this mission is for our future protection as the 325 million dollar DART mission may provide crucial information to one day save the earth from a collision-bound asteroid.

[Winter Uniform.](#)

Block 2 will see students wearing the winter uniform. Below is a description of our winter uniform. Please also check this link.

<https://britishschool.si/school-life/school-uniform>

1. Early Years - Winter Uniform:

- White or navy embroidered long-sleeved polo shirt
- Choice of embroidered navy V-neck sweater or navy cardigan
- Navy sweatpants
- Grey pinafore dress or skirt
- PE Kit and non-marking indoor sports shoes
- Black socks

- Indoor non-slippery black shoes or plimsolls*
- Outdoor footwear suitable for weather conditions and outdoor play*
- Fleece or jacket for outdoor play*

PLUS (as necessary)

- Rain poncho (to be kept in school for outdoor play)*
- Ski suit or waterproof trousers and jacket; hat, scarf and gloves in the winter*
- Suitable footwear for outdoors (wellies, boots)*

2. Primary - Winter Uniform:

- White embroidered long-sleeved polo shirt
- Choice of embroidered navy V-neck sweater or navy cardigan
- Grey trousers or skirt
- Grey pinafore dress
- Black socks

PLUS (as necessary)

- Ski suits, hats, gloves and suitable footwear for outdoor play time
- Fleece jacket (optional)

3. Secondary - Winter Uniform:

- Collared embroidered white shirt/blouse
- School tie
- BSL navy blazer
- Navy V-neck sweater or navy cardigan
- Grey trousers or skirt
- Black socks
- Black tights or stockings
- all black shoes (must be closed, no colour)

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>.

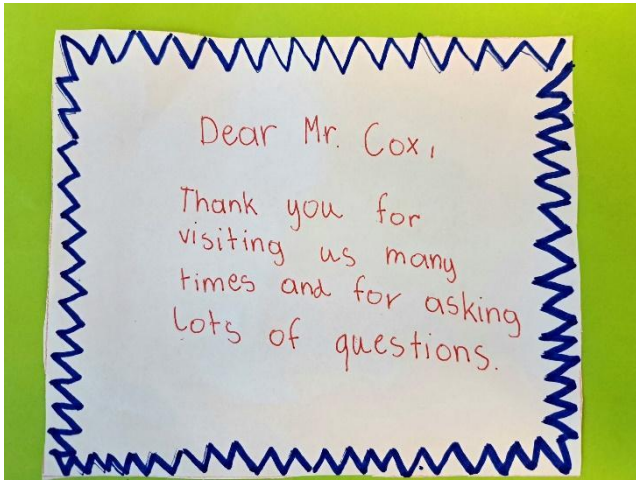
Principal's Message



Dear Parents and Families,

As BSL staff we were treated extremely well this morning as part of the PTA and Student Council's amazing efforts towards teacher Appreciation Day. A delicious breakfast greeted all the teaching staff this morning in the dining room, and we also received some thoughtful and beautifully presented cards from the children. All of this work was most definitely appreciated by the hungry diners!

It was also very pleasing this morning to welcome so many parents to the 'Coffee with Principal' event ahead of the PTA meeting. The PTA has a *Whatsapp* group, is working hard in support of the school, teachers and children, and would love to have the involvement of all BSL parents in any that you wish to contribute. Please contact the BSL PTA at pta@britishschool.si if you wish to find out more.



Part of my brief presentation to parents this morning was focused on explaining a little more about how we manage and develop the performance of our staff. I explained in basic details about the annual performance development cycle, the setting of specific worthwhile objectives that will make us more effective as a teaching and learning community, and how we recognise strong, effective teaching over extended periods of time. In particular, I am delighted to highlight the development aspect of our performance improvement, and that we aim 'less for measurement, and rather more for growth in each individual and group!'. Working alongside fellow professionals and aiming for greater growth and effectiveness in and out of the classroom truly is one of the many joys of my job.

I know many of the children are greatly looking forward to their swimming adventures at Atlantis next week.

Have a great weekend and enjoy the family time,

Best wishes,

Matthew Cox
School Principal

Many thanks to all those parents and families who have already returned the [GDPR form](#).

Find the [GDPR form here](#).

Matthew Cox, Principal

Dates to Note

Mon	Oct 10th	Year 11-13 Swimming Day - Atlantis
Tues	Oct 11th	Year 9-10 Swimming Day Atlantis
Weds	Oct 12th	Year 7-8 Swimming Day - Atlantis
Sat	Oct 22nd	Ljubljana Marathon
Thurs	Oct 27th	Hallowe'en Dress Down Day

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

Accounts: accounts@britishschool.si

Principal: principal@britishschool.si

School Calendars

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