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ISSUE 11 Friday 25<sup>th</sup> November

BRITISH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL WROCLAW

# NEWSLETTER

WEEKLY SCHOOL INFORMATION, EVENTS AND NEWS



Dear Parents and visitors to our website,

It has been a very busy week in the primary school, with rehearsals for 'Peter Pan' in full swing and the preparation for, and celebration of 'Thanksgiving' on Thursday. I have a feeling you will really enjoy this year's concert, as whilst it is early in the rehearsal schedule I have already heard some wonderful songs and music. I would kindly ask you to support and help your children in learning any lines they may have and with the lyrics of the songs.

I myself have had an interesting week around school finally having found time to start to observe some lessons; this week I really enjoyed lessons with years 3,4,5,6 ESL, year 2 and year 6. Our ESL class was busy learning vocabulary related to the theatre and plays, which will help them greatly in understanding and participating in the Christmas concert. Year 2 had a numeracy lesson and astounded me with their newly acquired division skills, and I was also impressed with the improved English of the students who joined our school this year and by the concentration and good behaviour of the class as a whole. In year 6 we studied about the human-rights movement in the USA during the 1960's, with an emphasis on Dr. Martin Luther-King and his 'I have a dream' speech'. The students read out their own 'I have a dream' speeches and delivered some fantastic dreams about their futures. Wonderful concepts such as re-unification of divided countries, religious tolerance and the need for compassion and non-

violence were expressed; I feel that if the entire world's children think along these lines then the future will be safe in their hands. All in all it was great being in the classroom observing exactly what education is all about.

I've just remembered an event from last weekend, Saturday to be precise when our boys and girls basketball teams were involved in competitive matches against other schools in Wroclaw. It was a great morning which saw in particular our girls winning two out of their three matches; a big well done goes to them for that achievement. Whilst we had many parents supporting their children, others of you may wish to catch some video highlights on this link: <http://youtu.be/F0QOuFsWp14> or on the Polish <http://www.basket.wroc.pl/>. You could direct your friends and family in your home countries so they can enjoy it too, and keep up to date with the teams' progress.

On Thursday, as stated, the primary school had their 'Thanksgiving' celebrations and year 6 was quick in giving their invitation for me to join in with theirs. When I arrived I was met by tables full of Indians and Pilgrims and tables laden with traditional foods. Miss Joanna then informed me about one of my ancestors who travelled on the Mayflower, namely one Francis Billington and the tale that he had

nearly blown up the ship during the journey, once by setting-off firecrackers and once by firing a musket next to a barrel of gunpowder. Francis is also remembered for something less mischievous and that is for discovering what is still known as the Billington Sea, and Nicolas in year 6 kindly read out some interesting facts and figures about it for me. I left the Indians and Pilgrims to start their feast and travelled the oceans to the small villa to see how the celebration was going there. I must thank the teachers and you the parents for helping make this event a success enjoyed by all the children.

Wishing you a pleasant weekend,



Best regards,  
Wayne Billington  
Head of School



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Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
Staff Morning Briefing 8.15a.m. dining room  Full Staff Meeting  Polish for Parents (2.40p.m. – 3.25 p.m.)	Round Table (Secondary) 8.30a.m.  Polish for Parents (2.40p.m. – 3.25 p.m.)	ESL for Parents (2.40p.m.- 3.25p.m.)  Year 1 Eagles and Year 1 Sparrows trip to the fire station  Polish for Parents (1.50p.m. – 3.25 p.m.)	Secondary School Assembly 8.35 a.m.  Primary “Thanksgiving celebration”	Primary School Assembly 8.35 a.m.  ESL for Parents (8.35a.m.- 9.20a.m.)  Y1 Bake a Cake Day  PTA Christmas Workshop (3.30p.m. – 4.30p.m.)		
28	29	30	1	2	3	4
Staff Morning Briefing 8.15a.m. dining room  Polish for Parents (2.40p.m. – 3.25 p.m.)	Polish for Parents (2.40p.m. – 3.25 p.m.)	ESL for Parents (2.40p.m.- 3.25p.m.)  Polish for Parents (1.50p.m. – 3.25 p.m.)	Whole School Assembly 8.35 a.m.	ESL for Parents (8.35a.m.- 9.20a.m.)  PTA Christmas Workshop (3.30p.m. – 4.30p.m.)		

REMINDERS FOR PARENTS



Please take care when parking around the school.

Avoid blocking entrances to neighbours' houses and driveways.

**DO NOT PARK ON THE ZEBRA CROSSINGS!**

1. Mr. Lee our Korean Coordinator is available:

- Monday – 8.30 – 12.05
- Tuesday – 11.20 – 12.05 and 1.00 – 3.20
- Wednesday – 8.30 – 12.05
- Thursday – 8.30 – 12.05
- Friday – 8.30 – 10.10 and 12.20 – 1.50

2. Ms Hiroko, our Japanese Coordinator revised times:

- Monday – 11.20 – 3.25
- Tuesday – 8.30 – 3.25
- Wednesday – 10.30 – 3.25
- Thursday – 11.20 – 3.25
- Friday – 9.25 – 3.25

3. School doctor is available for Parents

on Mondays from 11.a.m. till 1.00p.m.

4. PTA Christmas workshops: 3:30p.m. to 4:30p.m. - 2<sup>nd</sup> and 9<sup>th</sup> December

PTA Christmas bazaar 14<sup>th</sup> December after school

Primary winter concert 13<sup>th</sup> December 17:30 at Firlej theatre

Secondary winter concert 15<sup>th</sup> December at school time TBA

## Extra Curricular Activities

ECA	TEACHER	AGE GROUP	WHERE	WHEN
Homework Club	Christina Andrzejewski	Whole primary	Yr 3 room	Wednesday 3:30
Homework Club	Marta Mironiuk	Whole primary	Yr 1 room (sparrows)	Monday 3:30
Sewing Club	Anna Witańska	Yr 2-Yr 6	Yr 4 room	Wednesday 3:30
Newspaper Club	Kristina Galuska	Yr 3 – Yr 6	ESL room (opposite the gym)	Monday 3:30
ESL For Parents	Iwona Sokołowska	parents	ESL room in the small villa	Wednesday, period 7 Friday, period 1
Origami Club	Iza Łuczowska	Yr 1- Yr 6	Foundation room	Tuesday 3:30
Circle Art Club	Karolina Traut Karpińska	F - Yr 2	Year 1 room (eagles)	Tuesday 1:30
Paper Art	Diana Tonge	Yr 1- Yr 6	Year 2 room	Thursday 3:30
Card Making Club	Jennifer Jones	Yr 2- Yr 6	Year 5 room	Wednesday 3:30
Free Verse Poetry	Joanna Schier	Yr 3- Yr 6	Year 6 room	Monday 3:30
Art Club	Hye Seung Lee	Yr 3- Yr 6	Art room	Thursday 3:30
Football Club	Marcin Kwasiuk Alex Sitkowiecki	Yr 1 – Yr 6	Football pitch	Monday 4:00 – 5:15
Swimming	Marcin Kwasiuk	Yr 1 – Yr 3	ul. Trwała 17-19	Tuesday 5:20-6:05
Swimming	Marcin Kwasiuk	Yr 4 upwards	ul. Trwała 17-19	Friday 5:20-6:05
Guitar Club	Maciek Posłuszny	Yr 3 – Yr 6 Y7 upwards	Music room	Wednesday 3:30 Friday 12.10
School Band	Maciek Posłuszny	Y7 upwards	Music room	Tuesday 3:30
School Orchestra	Maciek Posłuszny	Y5 upwards	Music room	Thursday 3:30
Drawing Club	Rebecca Grocott	Secondary	Year 11 room	Tuesday 12.10
Japanese for beginners	Hiroko Nagai	Secondary	Japanese room	Monday 12.10 Wednesday 12.10
Japanese for advanced students	Hiroko Nagai	Secondary	Japanese room	Tuesday 12.10 Friday 12.10
Creative writing Club	Joanna Schier	Y2 upwards	Year 6 room	Monday 3.30
Polish for Parents	Hanna Savel	Beginners	ESL room (by the gym)	Tuesdays 2.40 Wednesdays 1.50
		Intermediate	French room	Mondays 2.40 Wednesdays 2.40

## News from Head of Primary



It was an eventful and joyous week. All the primary children were busy rehearsing for the concert. Year 1 Sparrows and Eagles went on a trip to the local fire station and found out about the work of firefighters. Lots of learning happened in classes as well!

Year 1 Eagles were studying living and non-living things in Science. Year 2 were learning songs for their Christmas concert and in Maths started to try to understand division.

Year 3 worked on their shape poems. Year 4 began to study fractions. Year 6 students worked on relating the Past to their own lives and to the Future, by reading and discussing "I Have a 'Dream" speech by Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., and writing their own versions of it.

On Thursday we celebrated Thanksgiving. Some classes had parties with national dishes prepared by parents and teachers. The atmosphere of joy, true community and sharing was present in every room! Thank you so much for supporting this worthwhile event.

On Friday we had our weekly assembly. The following students were nominated Stars:

Foundation – Leo  
Year 1 Sparrows - Yunaho  
Year 1 Eagles - Yeyn  
Year 2 – Eita  
Year 3 - Antonio  
Year 4 – Yu Jin  
Year 5 – Sangbaek  
Year 6 – Nicolas

Well done, everyone!  
Wishing you a nice weekend,

Anna Witańska  
Head of Primary

## News from Head of Secondary



Dear Parents and students,

Another relatively quiet week in the secondary school.

In assembly this week the topic of discussion was the English language and that as we are a 'British' international school the importance of using it at all times possible. The students were asked what is the language spoken by the largest number of people in the world, and several got the correct answer of Mandarin Chinese. It was also related that English as the second most spoken language (350 million as a first language and 750 million as a second), has become a 'universal' language. English in this position is now used in science, business, and aviation e.t.c. and thus is an essential if you want a good career in the future.

I explained to the students that English falls into the Germanic family of languages, but that its' change and development has been ongoing due to invasion and empire. Thus English includes elements of Latin and French for example, and has absorbed words from many other cultures e.g. bungalow from India, Yacht from Dutch, alcohol from Arabic e.t.c. I explained that when learning a language we must not be afraid of making mistakes, and that practice really does make perfect. I gave the example of an English schoolchild who was rather lost for words in a math's test who ended up describing a triangle as a square with only three corners. I went on to sympathize with the difficulty of learning my strange language and pointed out that whilst English has over one million words, the average person needs only 20,000 to function successfully! I then read the sentence, 'It is true for all that, that that "that" which that refers to is not the same "that" which that "that" refers to.' After some hilarity I stated that grammatically the sentence makes perfect sense, but that I do not expect everyone to reach such levels of understanding. I added however, that I did expect everyone to learn the spelling of the longest word in the English dictionary by the next assembly!!

PNEUMONOLTRAMICROSCOPICSILICOVOLCANOCONIOSIS

(The spell check recognized it!!!!!!!)  
Have a great weekend,

## What's on in Wrocław

### NORDIC WALKING

Saturday 26<sup>th</sup> November at 9:30 in Southern Park  
at HALA ORBITA  
(Wejherowska street)  
PLN 10 per person (equipment provided)  
[www.nordwalk.pl](http://www.nordwalk.pl)

### Christmas Fair in RYNEK

From 25<sup>th</sup> November till 23<sup>rd</sup> December  
Lots of Christmas stuff to buy!

### BABY BEETLES – an animation which helps to learn English

Helios Cinema, ul. K. Wielkiego 19 a – 21  
27<sup>th</sup> November (Sunday) at 11:00  
tickets: children PLN 4, adults PLN 18

### PACO DE LUCIA AND BAND – CONCERT IN THE CETENNIAL HALL

ul. Wystawowa 1, Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 6:00  
p.m.  
Tickets from PLN 40 to PLN 180

### SPISKA ICE-SKATING RINK

ul. Spiska 1, open 8:00 a.m.-10:00 p.m. at weekends  
tickets: PLN 8- 10



## International Cooking Recipes

### Ruthenian (Russian) Dumplings recipe, i.e. pierogi

In Poland we call them “pierogi ruskie.” However, in Russia the dumplings are stuffed with various types of ingredients while typical Polish-style ‘pierogi ruskie’ have unique stuffing and derive from historical Red Ruthenia lands. They are one of the most popular Polish meals and most of the housewives have their own recipe for it. The name derives from Proto-Slavic word ‘pir’ what meant festivity.

#### Ingredients for the dough:

350 g of all purpose flour  
125 ml of warm water  
a little bit of salt  
(1 egg)

The dough for ‘pierogi’ is made of flour, water and a bit of salt, while some add an egg to it. After mixing all the ingredients together, one must knead it till it forms a smooth dough (adding more water if necessary).

Afterwards, it is rolled flat and cut into circle pieces – most preferably with drinking glass. Then we fill each circle of dough with stuffing.

#### Ingredients for the stuffing:

600 g of boiled potatoes  
250 g of well drained cottage cheese  
1 small white onion  
1 tablespoon butter  
pepper and salt to taste

Boiled potatoes should be mashed with cottage cheese and mixed with fried onion.

#### Preparation of dumplings:

Take each circle of dough into your hands and place teaspoon of filling on one of the sides. Fold the dough over the filling – to achieve a half circle – and seal it. Make sure that each dumpling is well sealed – otherwise the filling will come out while boiling. Prepare a pot with boiling salty water and put dumplings into it (stir it right after so that they would not get stuck to the bottom). When the dumplings float to the top, lower the flame and wait another 3 minutes to take them out with a slotted spoon.

The dumplings might be topped with melted butter, bacon or sour cream.

## YEAR 1 Trip to the Fire Station

A visit to a nearby fire station was the highlight of the week for our Year 1 pupils.

On Wednesday, we got a sneak peek into the life of a local firehouse.

All the children got a chance to shoot water from a high-pressure hose usually used for extinguishing big fires.

Also, we were able to take a close look at fire trucks and equipment that firefighters use.

The most impressive of the trucks has a ladder which is 37 metres long.

The 'question&answer' session left the firefighters smiling.

Here are some of the things the children asked about:

Are you brave?

Are you strong?

Have you ever rescued a cat from a tall tree?

Our hosts were also questioned about things that they are scared of. We were told that firefighters are afraid of the same things as everyone else, but that they are very well trained to act sensibly in frightening or dangerous situations.

One of the firefighters showed us how he can put on all his gear (special coat and trousers, boots, helmet, oxygen mask, oxygen bottle) in just 40 seconds. On the day following our trip, the children tried to see how fast they can change for gym.

They were quick but not quite that quick...

Marta Mironiuk

Karolina Traut-Karpińska



# AROUND BISC WROCLAW



A brief introduction to parents at BISC Wrocław