



# NEWSLETTER



1<sup>st</sup> International  
Primary School

## JOLLY PHONICS COMES TO OSTRAVA!

On October 2nd-3rd 2009, the 1<sup>st</sup> International School of Ostrava held a **Jolly Phonics Seminar** led by its co-author, **Sue Lloyd**. Jolly Phonics is the recognised leader in phonics and early grammar teaching at British and international schools around the world. Joining us for the seminar were Lyn Ellis, Emma Staples, Zoe Simmons and Basia Lubaczewska from the **Park Lane International School in Prague**; Rachel Stewart, Amanda Donaldson, and Ewan Thomson from the **British International School of Bratislava**; Ewelina Kowalska from the **British International School of Cracow**, and many of our own teachers, as well.



The seminar allowed participants to learn first hand from the author how to properly implement the program, and how to work through some of the challenges faced particularly by international schools, including the need for extra ESL work, and turnover rates that are higher than in state schools. As a result of the seminar, the International Primary School will be increasing the tempo at which it works with Jolly Phonics at the Reception level.

The seminar allowed participants to learn first hand from the author how to properly implement the program, and how to work through some of the challenges faced particularly by international schools, including the need for extra ESL work, and turnover rates that are higher than in state schools. As a result of the seminar, the International Primary School will be increasing the tempo at which it works with Jolly Phonics at the Reception level.



**Sue Lloyd is one of the two authors of Jolly Phonics. She has taught synthetic phonics for many years.**

Sue Lloyd, who has travelled to dozens of countries around the world working with schools and teachers who implement the Jolly Phonics program, flew to Ostrava from London – her first time ever in the Czech Republic!

**Brett Gray**  
Executive Director  
Principal, International Primary School

## GRADUATES FROM ISO CONTINUE AT PRESTIGIOUS UNIVERSITIES



English - Czech  
Secondary School

Ostrava – The secondary school 1<sup>st</sup> International School of Ostrava (ISO), which was founded in 2005, had its first graduates last academic year. They continue their further studies not only at prestigious Czech universities, but one third of them were successful with entrance exams abroad.

**Seven out of twenty-three graduates from ISO started their studies at well-known universities in Great Britain, the U.S.A., Canada, Italy and Holland.**



Philip Corkill

Their class teacher, Australian Philip Corkill, said that his previous teaching experience in Australia is prompting him that the graduates from ISO are ready for further studies abroad as they master not only theory, but also key skills. "These include, for example, logic and critical thinking, the ability to engage in team work and to deal with problems," said Mr. Corkill.



Gitana Chunyo

The English literature teacher, American Gitana Chunyo, thinks that the school is experiencing a very positive trend of a growing interest of students in studies at foreign universities. "I was very pleased that two of our students want to study even at my 'alma mater' in Rhode Island. In English, we try to teach the students not only to speak fluently, but we also work intensively on the development of their writing skills.

We want them to be on a comparable level with students from English-speaking countries," added Ms. Chunyo.

The director of the secondary school, Mr. Petrus, is convinced that the graduates from ISO will be successful at university studies. "The news from the entrance exams and about the first weeks of their studies made us very happy. The students were very highly evaluated for their ability to present their knowledge logically and systematically, for their oral expression, for their appropriate theoretical knowledge and for their level of English which is really comparable with the level of students from English-speaking countries," said Mr. Petrus.



# HALLOWEEN & THE CIRCUS



Our Halloween Game

## NEWS FROM RECEPTION AND NURSERY

On Friday October 23rd our class celebrated Halloween together with parents at our Parents Class Assembly. We decorated our classroom with a spider web, spiders, bats and ghosts. We carved a pumpkin and we learned a song called "Halloween Colours".

The parents prepared nice Halloween costumes for their children and we played a new Halloween game.

**Štěpánka Hausková and Silvie Konevalová**  
Reception and Nursery Teachers

## NEWS FROM YEAR 1 AND YEAR 2

October was a month full of movement and entertainment for us. On October 6th we participated in a circus workshop and the whole school saw a performance of two professional clowns.

We created posters for this event and really enjoyed watching the funny clowns and their tricks! We had a great time studying the circus unit and learning about circus history, animals and songs. As a part of this unit we also learned how to put up a tent and used our fantasy and creativity when making a circus out of plasticine.

On October 23rd, Year 1 and 2 visited a **Puppet exhibition** and the **Town Hall Tower**. Everything seems so tiny from the top!

**Jarka Corkill**  
Year 2 Teacher



## NEWS FROM YEAR 4

Year 4 has had an action-packed month.

Our highlight should have been our trip to the **Dinopark**. Over the last 7 weeks we have been learning all about those gigantic reptiles. We took a trip back to Pangaea 200 million years ago – well not really, but we did write a story involving time travel. Our dinosaur topic concluded with a bus trip to Dinopark Ostrava.



But we arrived only to discover the park closed due to a cold and wet October – not to worry, we went to the **zoo** instead. There, we saw a small and compact miniature Amazon Rainforest; our next IPC topic.



# CULTURE DAY & HALLOWEEN

## NEWS FROM YEAR 4

Other events for the month included:

**Culture Day** – our class learned about Egypt. We spent time learning to decipher and write in hieroglyphics. We ended the day with a short play titled “The Life and Death of Cleopatra”.



Egyptian pyramid

In science; we carried out experiments or “**Scientific Enquiries**”. We found out that Adam has the strongest grip in our class, and that Year 6 students have longer arms than Year 4 students (as we predicted). Dominik worked up a sweat while jumping up and down for 5 minutes – in the name of Science; we were looking at what happens to our bodies when we exercise.

And after all of this we’re now all exhausted and will enjoy a well deserved, week long mid-term break.

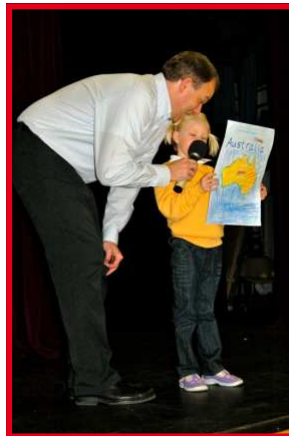
For more photos, please go to our Photogallery of the International Primary School at: <http://www.is-ostava.cz>



It’s a Small World After All...



Welcome to England!



Emma helps Mr. Brett read about Australia



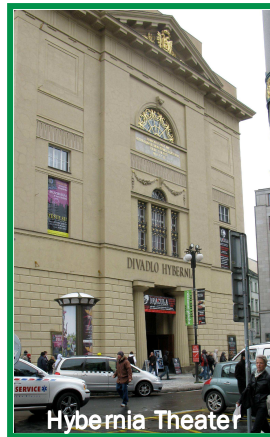
Halloween!



A-R-G-E-N-T-I-N-A!

## GRADE 13 CLASS TRIP TO PRAGUE

On October 14th-16th, our grade went on a trip to Prague. We stayed at Elf Hostel, which was a couple of bus stops away from the center. Immediately upon arrival, everyone went out to the heart of this beautiful city. Some of us decided to go support the Czech soccer team in the World Cup qualification match against Northern Ireland, while others preferred to wander around the Old Town or visit various museums.



Thursday, October 15th, was marked by theater, as we went to see one of the best Czech musicals - Dracula, written by Karel Svoboda and Zdeňek Borovec. Finally, on the last day, we all went to an art exhibit where we saw Entropa, the sculpture portraying European countries and their stereotypes, created by David Černý. This sculpture was installed in the Council of the European Union during the Czech Presidency in the first half of 2009.

It is fair to say that everybody had a great time, and we are glad that our last class trip will be a good memory.

**Tereza Steinhüblová and Alžběta Pekárková**  
President and Vice-President of Class 13B

## GAUDEAMUS BRNO



On Thursday, October 22nd, most of our grade 12 and 13 students visited **Gaudeamus**, a fair in Brno where all Czech and some foreign universities presented their faculties for secondary school graduates. The news of this year was the participation of more than ten Chinese universities. Our students had an opportunity to talk to university representatives, ask many questions and get leaflets with useful information.

Jana Kotasová

## NATIONAL THEATRE PRAGUE

On Saturday, October 10th, eighteen students from grades 11 to 13 visited a comedy, **"Sluha dvou panů"** ("The Servant of Two Masters"), with Miroslav Donutil as the main character, at The National Theatre in Prague. The performance was magnificent! We had lots of fun and look forward to other theatre performances as good as this one!



Jana Kotasová

## V-IS-A CLASS TRIP TO POLAND



On Wednesday we arrived at Wroclaw main train station and walked to the hostel which was located about five minutes from the main square. After we dropped off our bags, we walked to the square so that we could have a better understanding of the city. We then climbed Katedrze św. Marii Magdaleny for a beautiful view from the top of this old Cathedral. You could see most of Wroclaw that day (luckily it wasn't foggy or raining) and probably even further during the summer. For dinner, we went to a Texan restaurant on the square called "Buffalo Billie's". Following our evening meal we took a stroll down to Wyspa Piasek, an island where we hopped on a boat which took us for an evening cruise along the river Odra so that we could view this ancient city by dark.

On Thursday, we went first to the National Polish Museum which had a lot of interesting paintings, sculptures and statues spread across three floors. Afterwards, we went to the Panorama. It was interesting and enjoyable for us all as it was something different and told us about a bit of Polish history. Next, we went to the University of Wroclaw - a huge baroque building not used as much for lectures nowadays but a lovely look into the past of only a couple of generations ago. In the afternoon, we had lunch in a buffet, and the food was quite good. After lunch, we had planned to go to the Japanese Gardens but it started to rain and everyone felt tired from the busy but exciting morning. So we decided that it would be better if the class went and rested in the hostel.

We went looking for a cake for Lucie as her birthday was the next day. We had to walk half way across Wroclaw but in the end, we managed to find a lovely cake, some candles and a card. In the evening, after everyone had rested, we went to a lovely Italian restaurant on Kuzniza Street which was just off the square. After dinner we set off to a jazz club "Rura" which was very enjoyable and finished the evening off nicely.



In the morning we had to set up the surprise birthday party for Lucie. She was delighted that we got her a cake. After breakfast we packed our stuff, got some souvenirs and gave Mr. Corkill some gifts from the whole class for taking us to Poland.

**Henry Kubecka and Clea Boban**  
Class Presidents

## EXHIBITION "OSTRAVA?"



On Tuesday October 20th grades 6 & 7 went to the Pavilion "Černá louka" in which there was an exhibition called "Ostrava?". We could see a lot of statues, paintings, and photographs of modern and classic art.



**Anna Holešínská** with her favourite picture

Everyone could choose one picture which he liked and the photographer took a photo of him. Then you had to wait for your photo. It took quite lot of time but the final photograph had amazing quality!

I think that it was really interesting and we could see many wonderful paintings and other artwork. I am happy that I can always look at the photo with my favourite painting.

**Anna Holešínská**



**Veronika Matraszek** with her favourite picture

## CONGRATULATIONS!

Daehee Kim and Pavel Verner participated in an art competition entitled "Art Changes Us" and they were extremely successful! Their work will be on display on November 10th in "The House of Books Librex Ostrava" [Dům knihy Librex].

Everyone is invited!  
Great work, guys!

<http://umeninasmeni.cz/AJ/news.html>

**Nina Pavelková**



**Pavel Verner: David mirroring [Davidovo zrcadlení]**



**Daehee Kim: World Changes Us**

## EXHIBITION "TRACES OF FIRE"



In October we were at The Gallery of Fine Arts in Ostrava at an exhibition called "Traces of Fire". The pictures and also the statues were really interesting and some were also very nice. There were pictures which were made by various techniques but all of them had something to do with fire. For example there were some pictures in which were burnt some small holes and it looked really interesting or some pictures where the artist just burned them and that

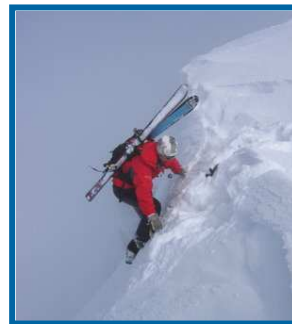
looked really good. Then when we had to make some picture on which we would show what fire means for us. I think no one knew what to draw so we just took a color and started to draw something. In the end it looked good. This exhibition was nice and every one should see it.

**Kristýna Uhlíková**

Grade 8A

## OUTDOOR FILM FESTIVAL— MT. ELIAS

On Tuesday October 20th grade 11 went to club Atlantic in the centre of Ostrava. All of us were happy that we missed some subjects but almost nobody was excited about the movie. We waited several minutes outside the club because the school before us was late.



Finally, we entered the club; we sat on chairs which were pretty uncomfortable so the movie could start. It was about ski alpinism. A few crazy guys decided to climb Mt. Elias and ski down. This happened in the year 2007 and all of them survived but only 4 from 9 men reached the top. They were the first people to ever accomplish this.

Five years before them a group of American ski alpinists tried the same but two people died. This movie was pretty interesting and only a few students fell asleep. I hope we'll visit more festivals like this in the future.

**Milena Ličková**

Grade 11B

## LATE THURSDAY MORNING WITH AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL

As in previous years, Amnesty International once again arranged a day dedicated to innocent and defenseless children in the third world who do not have access to quality education in their own countries or, in some cases, no education at all. Moreover, it involved children who instead of attending school and being educated are forced to work in factories. Unfortunately, Amnesty International had determined a nearly impossible goal in which a few of us voluntarily participated. This year was concentrated on the alarming situations in China and Afghanistan. In addition to those two countries, they also strived to promote the situation with Gypsy children and their education options in our own country.



At first our task seemed to be a piece of cake - just nicely attempting to persuade passers-by to simply sign up on the three letters addressed to ministers of education in each of those countries. But appearances can be deceiving.

Our charity mission of hunting down signatures started off after 8 o'clock in the morning, even though we were supposed to start at exactly 8.00, because as you know it is hard for us teenagers to be on time anywhere. Wouldn't you know, it was extremely cold outside and even our teeth were chattering. This might have been a reason why most of the passers-by were so cross and uptight. Another explanation is that it is in Czech nature to be rude towards complete strangers.

There were 8 of us brave enough (just kidding) to comb through the center of Ostrava and shopping malls such as Futurum - and our final result? You would not believe it, but pretty thick piles of signed papers were placed on Mr. Helebrant's desk at the end of our 4-hour-long-running-across-the-city hunt. ☺ Summing up that day, we were pretty glad to help out those less fortunate than we are.

Partrycja Szuscikova , Alžběta Petrusová  
grade11



## NEW COMENIUS STUDY ABROAD PROGRAM OPEN TO 1<sup>ST</sup> ISO STUDENTS! POSSIBILITIES INCLUDE FRANCE, LITHUANIA, ROMANIA, AND PORTUGAL



Education and Culture DG

### Lifelong Learning Programme

The well-known Comenius Program has welcomed the 1<sup>st</sup> ISO into its family of partner schools. Starting this year, our students who are at least 15 years old can study for 3 months or more at our partner schools in France, Lithuania, Romania and Portugal.

The best part is that **the EU pays the expenses for the chosen students.**

As a school, we have to **apply for a grant by December 1st, 2009.** Up to 3 of our students can qualify. So don't hesitate, if you are interested, let me know. This is a great chance for you!

Ms. Blahetová

## Model United Nations Club – ISOMUN



UNITED NATIONS

Whether you are interested in world politics, discussing world issues, learning to argue and defend a view, or simply improving your rhetorical abilities, the **school's Model United Nations Club** is here to help. At the meetings, we will practice debating on a different topic each week. The goal of the club is to prepare for an international conference, which will be held in the spring. The details are to be discussed at the meetings.

Joining the club is as easy as simply coming to the meeting. The Club is intended for grades 10 - 13. The club meets in the small building (building B) in class B111 every other Monday at 14:15 (during lesson 8). Our next meeting will be held November 23rd.

Student contact: [Jonas Gray](#)  
Faculty Contact: [Gitana Chunyo](#)

## FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT – SENIOR BOYS' TEAM

On Tuesday 29th the Senior Boys' Team participated in a football tournament of all gymnasiums in Ostrava. As there are several football players in our school we decided to compete against 4 other teams and win some matches.

The tournament took place at Gymnasium Olgy Havlové in Poruba and was played on a small football pitch. There were four players and a goalie in the game, therefore the game was quick, full of tackling, passing and shooting, and many goals were scored.

Our international team – Christos Chalkias, Václav Chromečka, Mike Fryčer, Sebastian Sikora, Lukáš Dejčík, René Kozub and goalie Jiří Vladař – played nice and terrific matches, improving in each match, performing their best, and showing that they are real football players. Well, what was the final standing then? We won two matches: 4:3 [Gymnasium Pavla Tigrída], 3:0 [Gymnasium Olgy Havlové]; we tied 2:2 with Gymnasium Matiční and we lost 4:0 to Wichterleho Gymnasium. This means we got 5 points and placed 3rd, which is a great success compared with last year's disaster.

Thank you very much, boys, and hopefully next year we'll be even better and go to the next round.

[Ivo Helebrant](#)  
Coach