

February, 2009

NEWSLETTER



XMAS PARTY 08'

The school has significantly grown in size over the last year so this Christmas the traditional ISO Xmas Party took place at the Ruby Blue club on Stodolní Street. The dress code was white and many of the students and teachers could be seen coming in white clothes which enhanced the snowy atmosphere. At six o'clock the place was swarming with students and teachers, all of whom brought Christmas presents that were later given to the orphans of the Na vizině orphan house. Santa must have had a very hard job hauling the huge bags with Christmas gifts there, since there were so many – A big thank you to all of our students and teachers.

All the classes competed in Karaoke and saw the six graders winning, but the competition was rather tough. Above all, it was grade 12A with the stunning live performance of their rock star, Jonáš Gray. "I really enjoyed it," applauded Martin Zábojník after the show. Many other students felt similarly.

Overall, we had a good time and spent a nice evening together with our classmates and teachers. Big thanks to all that organized the event – the Student Council, Santa's Helpers, Erin Blair, our Santa, and all the students and teachers that made the evening a huge success.

Jan Petrus, jr.



Thanks to Lara Park and Sita Huh for their efforts in making decorations.

SOME CHRISTMAS PARTY THOUGHTS

Laughter mingled with controlled chaos, bags replete with presents dedicated to those in need, popcorn-covered floors, or smiles on the faces of those ready to leave their books asleep for a very long time. These might be some of the images of the Christmas Party of the 1st International School of Ostrava, held on the 18th of December, 2008.

What at first had seemed to be a rather difficult task, as to fit 146 students and 30 teachers into the Ruby Blue restaurant on Stodolní Street, finally turned out to be not only manageable, but also worthwhile. With a slight delay, at around six twenty five the show kicked off with an opening word from Mr Petrus and Dominik Milota who was the MC for the whole night.

The program did have some remarkable things to offer, such as the arrival of Santa, a raffle bursting at the seams and full of valuable prizes, or the well known karaoke which did not quite work out the way it was meant to. Nevertheless, what all participants can be definitely proud of are the countless numbers of presents which were later on donated to the Children's home Vizina. Food-wise, as a lover of meat of any kind, there could not possibly have been a better choice for me than a roasted pig as the main dish, but how dare I judge the food. I'd better empathize with those who did not come into their own. What I mean is that, indeed, I admit that the range of salads was to say the least, pitiful, but it was not about the food, obviously, and it was not meant to be about the food.

In comparison with the last year's party, the opinions of whether it was better or not may vary, but as far as I am concerned, I think that this year's party was a success simply because students and teachers appeared to have more time to chat amongst themselves. As the event was coming to its end at about 9:30, paradoxically, older grades parted before 10 o'clock, while it was predominantly the young ones who left the party last.

Given the pros and cons, would I go there again? Were there things to be improved? I would personally answer yes to both of these questions. But overall, I had the impression that most people really had fun and enjoyed the last days before Christmas was about to hit.

Štěpán Ochodek, 3 ISB



Some of the beautiful decorations made by our students.

PRIMARY SCHOOL

ST. NICHOLAS DAY

On 5th December St. Nicholas, together with devils and angels visited our school. They came to every class to ask the class teachers if the children were "good". In return for gingerbread, a traditional Czech St. Nicolas sweet gift, every class had to sing a song.

Štěpánka Hausková



Reception children singing "Are you sleeping?" for St. Nicholas.

PRIMARY SCHOOL STUDENT COUNCIL

Just before Christmas, Key Stage 2 students had a chance to elect members of the Primary School Student Council. Two members were elected from each of the KS2 classes, to serve as Councillor and Vice-councillor. Each has their different responsibilities. The aim of the Student Council is to represent the voices of all children at the Primary School. Members have already had several meetings with Vice-Principal Jana Polanská, to discuss healthy snacks and go to the Salvation Army in Ostrava to distribute food and clothes that were collected during the month of December.

Class	Councillor
Year 3	Ah Hyun Pyoun
Year 4	Miro Jarvinen
Year 5	Gibeom Kim
Year 6	Emma Fogtmann

Class	Vice-Councillor
Year 3	Soo Jeong Cha
Year 4	Sung Soon Kim
Year 5	Veronika Matraszek
Year 6	Songi Kim

The Student Council carried out a survey among the Primary School students regarding the popularity of healthy school snacks and discovered the following:

Students like	Students don't like	Students recommend
muesli bars	fish fillets	rice cakes
fruit	brown bread	toast
ham sandwiches	old and bad fruit	sushi
doughnuts	bread with radish	cereals
yoghurt	yoghurt	cake

The collection of clothes and food for people in need, as well as pet food for dog shelters was a huge success. We would like to thank all the parents for encouraging their children to help others, and for all of your donations. Members of the Student Council wrote a short report about this event.



St. Nicholas with the Angels and Devils

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

Dear Students, Parents, staff and members of our school community,

It is hard to believe that we have already completed the first month of the new school term! I would like to take this chance to wish everyone a healthy, happy and prosperous new year. I am so pleased with the progress we have made since opening in September, and looking forward to the challenges that are awaiting us in the coming weeks and months.

On Friday, January 30th, we all said a tearful goodbye to our wonderful teachers, Nicole Beaulieu and Erin Blair. They did a superb job helping to get the school up and running in September. Their experience and grace under pressure were a great help to all of us, and I know that their students will miss them, as will I.

At the same time, we are very excited to welcome two new teachers to our staff. Jaroslava Corkill, joins us as an experienced teacher from the Czech Republic and Australia. She spent January integrating herself with the Year 1 class to make the transition as smooth as possible. The Year 6 class will be led by Drew Cooney, a qualified teacher from Nebraska, who has also done studies in Krakow and Olomouc. Ian Tonnie, also from Nebraska, will be helping us to develop our ESL program with more individual lessons. I am sure you will do your best to welcome them all into our school community!

Brett Gray

Executive Director

International Primary School Principal

VISIT TO THE SALVATION ARMY

We were collecting and donating old clothes, packed food and pet food for those who need it. The collection was at school before Christmas and we donated it to the Salvation Army in Ostrava. We had a tour around their building there. The Salvation Army is a Christian organization that helps poor and homeless people. Members of the Student Council and Miss Polanská went for a half day visit there. In the afternoon, Mr. Knápek, our care taker, donated the pet food to the dog shelter in Kopřivnice.

Songi Kim (Year 6 student), Gibeom Kim (Year 5 student)

PRIMARY SCHOOL

YEAR 5

In December we celebrated Christmas with a wonderful Christmas Show. Y5 and Y6 looked at Christmas traditions from around the world. We learned that the French put their shoes in front of the fireplace, that the Mexicans have a pinata, the Hawaiian people say "Feliz Navidad" and the Australians often spend Christmas at the beach!

We had a great time and we learned lots of new things. Take a look at some of our photographs at www.is-ostrava.cz.

Mrs Smith Y5



What talented performers!



The 1st ISO Christmas Show



The costumes were great!

YEAR 3 AND 4

December at the primary school was a busy, yet fun-filled month. While the halls and classrooms were decorated for the holidays with student art-work, there was a magical feeling all over the school. Each class was anxiously counting down the days until they could celebrate the holidays, some using advent calendars others doing special holiday activities. After an English unit on the *Gingerbread Man*, Miss Kemp's Year 3 class got festive decorating gingerbread cookies with colourful icing and sprinkles, to share with friends and family. Throughout the month of December the year three class worked extremely hard on their skit for the Christmas show. They performed "T'was the Night Before Christmas at the International School".

Mr. Reeve's class (Year 4) surprised everyone in the school with their impromptu door to door caroling! It was so pleasant to open your classroom door to hear the year four students singing some of their favourite holiday songs. The year 4 class opened the Christmas show with their "International News Report". News anchors from a variety of countries around the world reported on Santa's whereabouts and the weather around the world. A huge applause to both the year three and four classes for their hard work throughout the month of December and their fantastic performances in the Christmas show!

Miss Kemp

AFRICA IN GRADE 7

This project arose, because of our excursion to visit the Afrika exhibition in Ostrava castle. There were a lot of pictures of African culture.

So, our teachers (Miss Pavelková and Miss Marhevská) decided to do a project about Africa in grade 7.

At first we were divided to different groups: a costume team, IT team, make-up team, actor's team, music team and a camera team. At first we had to find some information and after that we had to make some preparations (create clothes, prepare make-up, dances and a short story. We prepared a song to sing and created our own musical instruments. In the next lesson (the week after preparation) we saw a dance from the actors, we heard a song from the music team, we saw costumes on the actors, which were created by the costume team and we also saw make-up. The camera team took some photos of the actors and the IT team worked on our webpage -

SEE <http://www.africa-in-iso.webnode.cz/>

Iva Janásková, Grade 7



Admiring the craftsmanship at the castle exhibition



Jiří Procházka is hardly recognizable after make-up and costumes.



One of the nativity scenes at the castle.

CHRISTMAS NATIVITY SCENES

We were at a special exposition of nativity scenes in Moravskoslezský castle. There were a lot of very nice and interesting nativity scenes of all kinds. There were some made from paper, wood, fabric and even gingerbread!

The most interesting scene for us was Petřkovický hornický betlém, made from wood, by Tomáš Kudeljnjak. We liked it because it was big and nice and wooden.

Another creation which we liked was named Setkání by Bohdana Šebestová. Most people liked this one because of the cute sheep.

There was also a nice scene which was named Perníkový betlém. It was made of gingerbread and created by Simona Šustková. Every one wanted to eat it because it looked really nice.

The rest of the scenes were all also quite interesting. In general, the exposition was great! Everyone liked it. The nativity scenes are in Moravskoslezský castle every year. I hope that you are going to visit it next year.

Kristýna Uhlíková, Grade 7



The music team perfecting their performance



TUTANKHAMEN EXHIBITION IN BRNO

I was standing at the train station, waiting for the train in the freezing weather. For some of us it was the first all-day trip with 1st ISO.

When I woke up at 5.00 o'clock I wasn't able to imagine that I'm going to wait for the train or run to catch it or just sit inside. I wasn't able to imagine that in a few hours I'll see the fabulous and well-known tomb of the most famous Egyptian pharaoh ever - Tutankhamen, the wealthy youngster, who died early at 18 years of age.

It's true that we didn't find the place of this exhibition immediately, but we got there, because of the great orientation sense of our teachers (read: accidentally). When we entered the building with the big sign TUTANCHAMON- JEHO HROB a POKLADY, we found out that we definitely couldn't be wrong and so we went in. The exhibition was divided into several parts. You could watch short movies about Tutankhamen or about Howard Carter, the discoverer of Tutankhamen's tomb. We could also admire fancy little gold statues of Egyptian gods or have a look at the parts of tomb. To be honest, it was beautiful. Just imagine if you were the one who found it and dug it out of the sand...

The exhibition was interesting and of course, we DID learn something new, even though we had already learnt about Tutankhamen before (Ms Blahetova trained us well), but the most important thing after the exhibition was how to get as fast as possible to the nearest KFC or McDonald's ...

To sum up, no one got lost, seriously injured or trapped in Tutankhamen's tomb. We survived and I can personally say that I enjoyed this trip a lot.

Michaela Tranová, 10B



ART CLASSES HAVE BEEN VERY BUSY

We are very proud of the artwork our students create and there have been some busy classes around Christmas and the new year.

Grade 6 put together a beautiful nativity scene which you can see in the photos above.

Also, the grade 11 students visited the Sváry zření exhibition in Dům Umění for some inspiration.

