

KYIV INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL

KOZAK KORNER

Friday, January 15, 2021

Newsletter Issue #20





Dear KIS Families,

Friday, January 15, 2021

I hope that everyone has enjoyed the winter break, was able to relax, spend time with friends and family, and celebrate the holidays. **I want to wish you all a wonderful 2021.** I hope this year brings us all health, wellness, success, and less social distancing! If you are anything like me, you are looking at this year with optimism that we will be able to begin moving towards fewer pandemic restrictions. We are still not sure of the timeline on something like this, but it is something we are discussing and beginning to look at closely.

We are also planning our **reaccreditation** visit in the Spring, so we are looking to finalize our self-study and submit this to MSA before their site visit. We appreciate the input we have received from parents. We will have a few more opportunities for parents to be involved in this process before we are done. We will have a coffee chat this next week to discuss the last four standards.

This past week, we had our **Preschool and 5yo students** on campus. It has been a quiet week, but also fun to see how our younger students have spread out and used all the space they have available to them. I think they will have a hard time sharing again when everyone else returns. It always takes a few days, but this past week we have settled back into school both online and on campus.

Parent-Teacher Conferences are coming up next Friday. We rescheduled this day to be one week earlier during our campus closure. Since most of our students are already online, it made more sense to change this day, as we did not want to give up another day when students could be on campus. You should be receiving information from your child's teacher or the divisional Director of Instruction concerning how these work.

I am looking forward to a new year here in Ukraine and at KIS!

Sincerely,



Luke Woodruff
Director
Kyiv International School



JANUARY 2021

Monday 18 - 21: Campus Closure (ages 6 to Sec IV)

The 2-year-old through 5-year-old classes will be on campus.

Tuesday 9 @ 10am: AP/IB Coffee Chat

Thursday 21 @ 10am: MSA Coffee Chat

Friday 22: Online Parent Teacher Conferences

No school for students.

ONLINE LEARNING DETAILS: **JANUARY 18 - 21**

6- 10 year old Online Schedule	
8:30-9:30	Literacy Block (Reading/Writing)
9:30-10:00	Mathematics
10:00-10:30	Break- off Zoom- All ages
10:35-11:05	Cultural Studies/Science
11:05-11:35	Lunch & Break
11:35-14:50	Specials Begin- Please check Elementary Specials Schedule
LOE	Regular scheduled times on Zoom- Time by age level
11:35-16:00	Individual Support/Small Group Support/Office Hours Teachers will post individual office hours and will be available for individual student support during the afternoon hours. **please note: the counselor is also available to support in the afternoons for your family-pamm-ohlinger@kyiv.qsi.org

Middle School & Secondary Online Schedule	
MORNING - SYNCHRONOUS TIME	
8:30 – 9:20	Block 1
9:30 – 10:20	Block 2
10:30 -11:20	Block 3
11:30 -12:20	Block 4
AFTERNOON- ASYNCHRONOUS TIME	
13:30-14:30	Independent Work/ Office Hours for Block 1 & 2
14:35-15:35	Independent Work/ Office Hours for Block 3 & 4

PARENT-TEACHER conferences

FRIDAY, JANUARY 22ND

8:00-4:00

*****NO SCHOOL FOR STUDENTS**

Each year, KIS has three different formats for our parent-teacher conference days.

October - Regular conference with teachers to meet and discuss how the school year has started.

January - These conference are meant for new students and any specific meetings set up by the teacher.

May - Student Led Conferences

How do the January conferences work?

Friday, January 22nd, will be invitational conferences. There will not be school on this day. Teachers will be contacting specific parents (including new families) for meetings that are scheduled to be longer in duration and may be coordinated with other subject teachers. PreK-Elementary meetings will be scheduled with individual teachers, while Middle School and Secondary meetings may be scheduled to include multiple teachers.

What if I would like to meet with a teacher?

If you feel like you would like to meet with your teacher, please request a meeting directly with the teacher, as the school will not be using Moodle to sign up for these conferences.

**COFFEE CHAT CALLS**

Members of our campus community are invited to join us this week for two important Zoom Room Coffee Chat calls.

Tuesday 9 @ 10am: AP/IB Coffee Chat
Thursday 21 @ 10am: MSA Coffee Chat

<https://zoom.us/j/305272176>
password: coffeachat



2-5-YEAR-OLDS WINTER EXTRAVAGANZA

The Preschool Winter Concerts are an annual KIS tradition and this year wasn't an exception. However, it was our first experience of performing online and it was a rousing success.

Everyone had a chance to perform for the virtual audience, showcasing a variety of holiday songs and dances, featuring amazing costumes. Music was a great part of the Holiday spirit and adding bells enhanced the anticipation of the holiday.

2-3-year-old students performed in their classrooms. They were the sweetest artists in the world and they tried very hard for their loved ones.

4-5-year-old students made their first debut on the auditorium stage and those were unforgettable moments of happiness for everyone. With great enthusiasm, delight, responsibility, and diligence they demonstrated their artistic abilities.

The whole concert created a real winter extravaganza with dancing, music, and amazing fancy dresses.







Virtual Homework Club

Middle School students who need help with homework (**any subject!**) are invited to join Ms. Endres for a Virtual Homework Club on Wednesdays and Thursdays, starting Wednesday November 25th!

The club will be open from 15:45-17:20; students are welcome to pop in anytime to get some help with their homework!

Join Zoom Room:
935 7893 5570

Passcode: **HWclub**

Online Behaviors and Success Orientations apply!

STUDENT SPOTLIGHT

KLARA

SECONDARY II STUDENT



KLARA SPEAKS

My favorite quote is **“The only person who can limit your possibilities is you”**, because it sums up something that I myself want to live by. I have those moments where I feel so annoyed at myself that I can’t do a certain thing the way I want to do it. But soon after, I realize that there is no one stopping me from trying and improving myself, there is no reason for me to quit. So, I keep trying until I feel good with what I have achieved. This past year has really shown me that the most unexpected situations can happen at any time whether we feel ready for them or not. It has been a tough experience, but it has taught me many different things and allowed me to discover more about myself. The biggest thing that I am scared about with the pandemic is not knowing whether it will ever end. Not knowing what will happen tomorrow scares me the most. Everything is so unpredictable, but what is of great importance is to focus on what we can control rather than on things we can’t.

WE ASKED KLARA ANSWERED

I don’t really like describing myself, but if I had to choose one word I would most likely go with **ambitious**. I have very high expectations for myself in many aspects of life and often set very high goals, especially with school. I strive to do my best and thrive of successes, but on the other hand, I reach my lowest point when I fail at something that I really want to learn or become good at. I have come to terms that through failure we can learn greater life lessons than through successes.

My favorite part of school are the people. It is great to be able to see such cultural diversity and interact with people of so many backgrounds. There is so much to learn about each person, their traditions, and language, it never gets boring. Although every single person is so different, those differences bring us together. I can always count on everyone and I feel so grateful to be a part of this wonderful community.

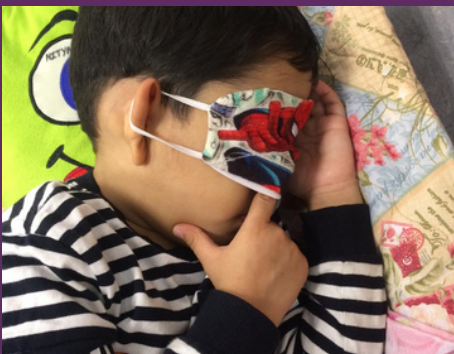
Before coming to Kyiv International School, I went to school in Warsaw, Poland. We had many different competitions there, but one of the ones I used to be very good at was Recitation Competition. In Preschool and Elementary, I have won multiple awards for reciting poems, and I remember how excited I was to be able to do that. It was one of those things that gave me a lot of joy back then. I would first choose a poem of my choice, then spend some time learning how to recite it, and finally, would perform in front of my entire school.

KIS ONLINE PHYSICAL EDUCATION



Families! Please feel welcome to join your child's online PE class during distance learning to have fun and get fit!

NEEDED: PHOTOS FOR THE YEARBOOK OF DISTANCE LEARNING!



Parents and Students! We would like to include our online learning experience in the 2020-2021 yearbook. Please take photos of your at home learning! Submit to:
yearbook@kyiv.qsi.org



Coaches Anatoliy and Julia Prima were working hard in the swimming pool before Winter Break- coaching both Middle School and Secondary swimmers. The Kozaks are planning to attend at least one "virtual" swim meet this year.





No Mexican fiesta is complete without a piñata. Children's parties especially will invariably have a time to break the piñata so the kids can enjoy this fun activity and once it's broken, collect the candy that falls out of it.

What is a Piñata? It is a figure, traditionally made from a clay pot covered with paper maché and painted or decorated with brightly colored tissue paper, that is filled with candy and fruits or other goodies (sometimes small toys).

At parties, a piñata is suspended from a rope, and a child, often blind-folded and sometimes made to spin around several times before taking their turn, hits it with a stick, while an adult pulls on one end of the rope to make the piñata move and make the game more challenging. Children take turns hitting the piñata until it breaks and the candy falls out onto the ground and then everyone rushes to collect it.

Nowadays in Mexico piñatas are an important part of birthday parties and other parties for children. It's just a fun thing for children to do (and sometimes for adults as well!). At birthday parties, breaking the piñata is usually done just before cutting the cake. Piñatas also figure prominently in the celebration of the Posadas at Christmastime.

Before the winter break, 8-year-old students made their own piñata for the end of the year celebration. It was very fun, the children were happy to share their candy to put inside the piñata, and now they are professional piñata makers!

Happy New Year 2021!
¡Feliz Año 2021!

