







WAT

World Academy of Tirana

Montessori & IB PYP Programme

NEWSLETTER

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Halloween Special



Dear Parents,

I am glad to say that the last two weeks have been fantastic for our group. Children have settled down and they come in happy in the morning. They are friendly with each other and are giving hugs and kisses to each other (amazing to see this at this age where they are very egocentric). The beginning of the month started quite in our group and we had half of the children off sick for about 10 days. Glad to say that they are better now, happy and full of energy in the classroom.

Children who were in Infant Community last year have started to work with materials that are nearly mastering them and also with new materials that I present to them each week. New children are learning the first materials that are according to their age and development. They have positive attitude and good concentration of the materials. When we go outdoors they find a partner to hold hands and It is cute to see how they look after each other while climbing the stairs. This shows that they need real situations to learn.



As part of our cooking this month we learned how to peel a pomegranate, how to spread Philadelphia cream in the bread or crackers and how to cut the Halloween pumpkin. Now that children know the classroom routine for next month we have planned to make foods which have more steps.

As part of our themes Children already finished coloring book of colors and coloring book of numbers. Some children are interested in them some not.



Toddlers and Infants



On Wednesdays we have been having music with Mr. Balázs and as you know children love songs and rhymes especially when they have the musical instruments in front of them. A happy atmosphere this month was Mei's birthday. She turned two; we wish her a hundred more years.

Before I end it I want to say goodbye to Sidney who left our group last Monday. We will miss him a lot!

Hope you all have a nice month!
Ms. Nertila

Casa Class

Dear Parents,

Let me take the opportunity to inform you about what happened in October. The integration of the new students has been successful, and we can now spend more time to help them concentrate more on their environment and develop their individual skills. This involves activities such as putting materials back on the shelves and lining up to sit down and have lunch in an appropriate way.

During our daily circle times, we have talked about the four seasons, the colours of autumn, and the leaves as they dry and fall down from the trees during this season. We also talked about the different colours of apples. We always support topics like these with songs and rhymes, and we count the days and say the names of the month.





We celebrated two birthdays this month with our special birthday walk and had cakes after lunch. We started talking about autumn vegetables, and we are planning to visit a grocery store near the school for which I will need the parents' permission.

There are new materials on the shelves about animals and different transport vehicles which follow the children's interests. There are special cards made for the smaller ones to learn the names of different parts of the classroom and the bathroom.

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We also celebrated Halloween as a closing activity of the month. We created different arts and crafts in connection with Halloween and had fun together with the school. We hope November will be fun too.

Kind regards,
Mr Balázs



Pre - Elementary Class

Dear Parents,

This month in Pre-Elementary, we have been up to lots of learning!

We have started working in our math books; the Envision Math series. We continue to work with groups; making groups with things that are the same or different, that belong or do not belong. Some of the concepts have been a bit tricky, but we are having fun with them! We are also learning about patterns, colors, mixing colors, counting, and even and odd numbers.

We have also been talking about our five senses. We have discussed the sense of taste; one of our favorite senses! We taste sweet, salty, sour and bitter foods. If you would like to make a home-school connection, feel free to talk about the foods you eat at home, and what they taste like.



We've also been busy learning about all the interesting new (and old!) friends in our class-room with the weekly start student. We have so many different people in our class, and it is so much fun learning about them. We have friends from all over the world with many different stories.

Also, we have been learning all of the letters in the English alphabet and all the sounds they make. Phonics is something we do on a daily basis, and we are learning new words everyday!



Dear Parents,

This month in first grade we have been learning about the different members of our class. It is very interesting to learn about the different countries our classmates, and our teacher, are from. We are a very diverse classroom. Among our class we speak 8 different languages and are lucky enough to have English as our common language.

This month we have been studying addition and phonics. We can now read and write words with “bossy e”, pick out rhyming sounds and words, and tell how many syllables a word has.

Next month we will be going out into the community, visiting different institutions to see what their role in the community is. This will work well with our Unit of Inquiry about Communities.



IB - PYP 2nd Grade Class



Dear Parents,

This month, we finished our first Unit of Inquiry, Where We Are in Place and Time.

Among other activities, the students enjoyed making landform mini books and scrapbooks for the unit. We will soon start our next Unit of Inquiry, Who We Are, which will focus on family, timelines, and celebrations. The focus will not only be on my students' families and traditions, but also on children's families and customs around the world. I hope to learn a lot about my students in the coming weeks as they inquire about their families.

The students were the most excited about the art activities, Cubism and Western Landscapes. I really believed the kids could never like anything more than painting until they were introduced to oil pastels. Wow! They were super excited and loved the messiness and the texture created by those things. I am so happy to have such budding artists in my class. More importantly, they really encourage each other and are willing to share their materials. What amazing kids!

* Please visit my website for weekly updates <http://readingzfun.com>

Kind Regards,
Ms. Channery



IB - PYP 3rd Grade Class



Dear Parents,

I want to thank everyone for such a warm welcome to our school! It has been a pleasure to get to know all of the staff, parents, and children of WAT

My 3rd Grade class started the New Year by burying time capsules in the school garden. We included not only personal items in our capsules but also personal surveys. At the end of the year, we will dig them up and see if our opinions have changed over the year.



IB - PYP 3rd Grade Class



Over the next few months, I will continue to challenge my students with projects and activities to nurture our internationally based curriculum.

Sincerely
Mrs. Poshka



IB - PYP 4th, 5th Grade Class



Dear Parents,

This has been a busy month. We have continued to work on our IB unit, Hygiene, Nutrition, and Choices. My students have learned about ways to prevent disease by developing good hygiene skills, such as washing your hands after using the restroom and before eating and the importance of having good dental care. They also watched video clips of how food is prepared in other countries. We discussed what constitutes a healthy snack and my students made healthy snacks in class.

The culmination of this unit is the construction of a portfolio of written and visual illustrations of all that they have learned during this unit. Their projects are real masterpieces. I'm very proud of their hard work.

In math, we have studied patterns and we are now working on decimals. All in all, this has been a very productive month.

* For weekly updates, please visit my website: www.vnakai.com.



Best Regards
Mrs. Veta