Our school is a unique international state school in Slovakia committed to meeting the needs of today’s multicultural societies and recognizing the changes in the global nature of our lives.

Unit of Inquiry

How we express ourselves?

Our next UoI is “Once upon a time”. This unit is connecting with transdisciplinary theme How we express ourselves?

An inquiry into the ways in which we discover and express ideas, feelings, nature, culture, beliefs and values; the ways in which we reflect on, extend and enjoy our creativity; our appreciation of the aesthetic.

The central idea for this Unit is:

**Through Art we express our feelings and ideas.**

The topic will be introduced through the different types of the stories. Children will learn about different genres, they will learn how to express their feelings through the stories. They will make a different types of stories like, commix, fiction, drama, picture books, legends...

In the first part of the UoI we will learn about the different genres in children’s literature. The key concept for this part of the UoI will be Function. Children will try to understand that all of the genres are important for us, because they express various feelings and stories.

In the second part we will learn about fairy-tales all over the world. We will try to find differences and connections between them. We will learn cross the games to express our feelings and ideas. The key concept for this part of UoI will be Connection. We will try to understand that we live in a world of interacting systems in which the actions of any individual element affect others.

In the last part of the UoI we will learn how to express our feelings in the stories we made. Each group will use different genres. **Reflection** will be the last key concept for this Unit. Children will try to understand that there are different
ways of knowing, and it is important to reflect our conclusion.

Focus Skills for the unit:
- Communication and research skills through the 1st part of the inquiry
- Communication and research skills through the 2nd part of the inquiry
- Social and self-management skills through the 3rd part of the inquiry

Learner Profile Attributes for the unit and Attitudes:
- Children will learn to be knowledgeable and good communicators when they learn and research for different genres.
- They will become inquirers and thinkers when they will try to find differences and connections between stories around the world.
- Children will learn to become risk-takers and balanced, when they will express their feelings in different genres of the stories.

Summative assessment task (s):

Task
School PROJECT: “PYP 1 Theatre” children will prepare a play in four groups.

Evidence
Each group will present different story and different genre. In the end of the unit children will make a theatre for other classes.

Assessment
Peer-assessment - teacher will prepare a check list for the visitors of the theatre. They will assess the work of children on the scene.

Visits and learning experience:
**LANGUAGES**

**Slovak with Ms. Patucova**

During this unit we will finish 1. Slabikar.

**Speaking, listening, reading**

We will continue with letters V, N, Y, P, T, K, R. Children will start to read bigger texts.

As you can see there is also a cursive writing in Citanka. We are practicing reading this type of writing with children. But it is not the expectation in first grade.

Children will also get Citanka (Reading book) before the Christmas. Children should practise their reading every day.

During the Slovak we will learn about different genres. We will read a lot of stories and learn how to express our feelings. We will practice comprehension of the stories.

**Writing**

We will still continue in practising of writing. Children will start to write short stories (comix, picture story books, picture books, encyclopaedias, etc...)

**English with Mrs. Kong**

In this unit we will focus on some classic tales such as *The Little Red Hen*, *Three Billy Goats*, *The Enormous Turnip* etc. Each child will be assigned a book to read along with an activity book to do at home each week. They will also watch the famous children story books on Scholastic storybook treasury DVDs.

We started our vocabulary building booklet where we practiced spelling and sentence writing. The children have learned three basic rules on sentence writing but they still need more practice. We will continue this activity after Christmas holidays on a regular basis.

We will continue the activities we do during the group lessons. The children will read more advanced reading level books with me. They have been listening to Dr. Seuss stories and in this unit, they will listen to some classic Disney tales such as *101 Dalmatians*, *Sleeping Beauty* and *Pinocchio*. Playing word games is always their favourite part of the lesson.

Children will also make some small story books in this unit.
**MATHEMATICS**

During this unit of inquiry we will most of the time review addition and subtraction to 10 and we will start to count to 20. We will review what we learned about the time. It means children should know show and say the time on analog or digital clock (whole hours and half-hours).

We will still work on problem solving. Children still need to know and understand the steps for problem solving:

1. Read the problem
2. Choose a strategy (Plan)
3. Solve the problem
4. Check
5. Answer

We also start to work on problems like: \(a + 6 = 7,\)

During this unit we will also work on geometry and fractions. I will learn about solid figures like a cube and a cone, and also about plane shape like a triangle and a square.

I will learn about fractions and talk about halves, thirds, and fourths.

**New Maths Words:**
- solid figures - a 3-D shape (cube, sphere, cone, rectangular prism, cylinder)
- plane shape - a flat shape (triangle, rectangle, circle, square)
- symmetry (two parts that match)
- vertex (a vertex is a corner of a solid figure or a plane shape)
- face (a face is the flat side of a cube or a prism)

**Maths Activity to Do at Home**

Have your child make a picture using plane shapes. Cut out several triangles, rectangles, circles, and squares, and help your child glue the shapes to a sheet of paper.
Dear Parents,

Second unit of inquiry is behind us. It took longer than I thought. But I think it was important unit for the children. I believe that they enjoyed the activities we had. As a first activity children made their first family tree.

**English**

Children made the *Family vocabulary book*, which helped them to understand the vocabulary of our unit of inquiry. Children also prepared *role-plays* and dramatizations based on family members.

**ART**

During the ART were children making the *puppets* - Puppets were made from paper plates. Children were divided in three groups. They were supposed to choose one member of family and made a face of that member.

We made also a *T-Shirt Pillow* - children used their knotting skills to made lovely pillow from the old T-shirts. It was a hard activity to do, but then children are enjoying the time with their pillows.

**IT**

On IT lesson were children working with *paint program*. They made their houses and family members from shapes. The most of the time we taught children to use shapes for the pictures, write text in paint, use colours, and copy and paste.

**Social Studies**

During the SS children started to learn about *the key concepts*. The students were asked to work in groups of 3. In each group were children talking about their families. They follow 3 key concepts Form (How big is our family? How many members? Which members are in my family?), Responsibility (What are my responsibility towards my family?), Connection (How are we connected with families around the world?).

I hope children and also you will enjoy the next unit of inquiry.

Best regards

*Ms. Patucova*