

Newsletter No. 2

29th September 2022

Dear parents,

I believe that the school year 2022-2023 has started successfully. Our first graders have become real schoolchildren, who every day with a schoolbag on their backs and usually with a smile take the stairs to our 4th floor. Day by day they become more independent, make friends, and learn new skills and school rules. I am convinced that the new pupils in the higher grades have adapted equally well and together we are all ready for the new challenges that this year will bring.

I am happy that after three years we can return to the traditional popular school events when we will also meet with you. I mean the Christmas fair, the spring Festival, Coffee Mornings...

The last mentioned, **Coffee Mornings**, will take place at the end of October and in the beginning of November in all bilingual first-stage classes on the following dates:

1.E1 and 1. E2	date: 21/10 8.00 - 10.00
2.E1, 2. E2 and 3.E	date: 9/11 8.00 - 10.00
4. E1, 4. E2 and 5.E	date: 10/11 8.00 - 10.00

For parents of our younger pupils who have not yet had the opportunity to experience the previously regularly held Coffee Mornings, I am happy to explain. On this day you can spend the first two lessons with your children and the teachers in school, the first lesson observing a regular class, the second one creating together with your children and spontaneously sharing observations with other parents, the teacher, and the teaching/care centre assistant over coffee – hence Coffee Mornings. 😊 We look forward to seeing you.

Like every year, this one is also in the spirit of a year-long project, this year's title is '**Ostrcilka likes the Czech Republic**'. It is focused on getting to know the Czech Republic, not only in terms of geography, but especially in terms of cultural and national identity.

There are several project days aimed at learning about Czech national holidays, their contexts with historical events in Czech history and deepening knowledge of Czech traditions and history.

In the course of the year, we plan to hold three project days, 6-7 small activities, a St Nicholas Fair and a final festival at the end of the school year.

Actually, we have already started the project with a competition, where our pupils were invited to bring their photos from different places in the Czech Republic. In October we will close the competition and draw the winners of the traditional Czech prizes. In October we will also have our first project day – '**Two Days in the First Republic**'. It is intended for the 1st stage pupils, but we will be glad if older pupils will also participate. We are looking

Future Events:

**3rd – 7th October –
adaptation course for
the 6th graders**

**3rd October - 4.E1,
4.E2, Puppet Theatre
Ostrava, 'The
Komensky Lesson'**

**10th October -
Sweatpants Day**

**12th October – 9.E,
CE Pretests**

**21st, October –
Coffee Mornings for
the first grades
bilingual pupils'
parents**

**24th and 25th
October – Two Days in
the First Republic,
project days**

**31st October -
Halloween, Halloween
Assembly for the first
stage pupils**

forward to the children who, just like us, can come in costumes matching the fashion of the First Republic. We will prepare activities and experiential learning for the pupils to bring them closer to that period.

As part of bilingual education, we also commemorate **traditions and important days in English-speaking countries** every year. This year will be no different, so in October we will celebrate the pupils' favourite **Halloween** together. The class teachers will keep you informed about the process and will prepare Halloween classroom activities for the pupils. Each child will certainly welcome the opportunity to come to school in a spooky costume.

The school parliament also has several challenges planned for this school year, which you and our pupils will be informed about. But I can already reveal that on 10th October we will commemorate Mental Health Day with '**Sweatpants Day**'.

I feel it is important to mention that project days are not 'free days' or 'no learning days'. In this way, we give space to project-based learning, experiential learning, and developing and supporting key competencies.

Cambridge Exams Pretesting

In the May term, a number of our pupils took the Cambridge exams, which were held in our school. We appreciate their excellent results and congratulate them.

We are planning to organize the exams in partnership with Cloverleaf again towards the end of this school year.

During the autumn, again thanks to our collaboration with Cloverleaf, our pupils have the opportunity to take trial CE tests called Pretests. However, it always depends on what levels Cambridge releases and sends for these Pretests. So far, we have booked the B2 - FCE level. All our ninth graders will take this test at school on 12th October.

The other pretests for A2 and B1 levels, i.e. KET and PET, for the 6th – 8th graders have been pre-booked with Cloverleaf and we are waiting to see if they will confirm their delivery and then, as always, we will arrange a date for them to take place in school during lessons.

Dear parents, thank you to all of you who have read through today's long Newsletter to the end. I will be more concise next time.

Thank you all for your cooperation and have a wonderful autumn.

Sincerely on behalf of the entire bilingual team

Táňa Bahnerová

Deputy Headmistress for Bilingual Classes

26TH – 28TH OCTOBER

AUTUMN HOLIDAYS

18th November

**Headmaster's
Holiday**