



Miras International School Newsletter

Message from the Head of School

Dear parents,

I would like to extend my congratulations to the Miras Community on the upcoming Independence Day of Kazakhstan!

This year has been very busy: we hosted the CIS/NEASC evaluation visit in November. We expect to receive their report including outcomes and a final decision about Miras' re-accreditation in January. You all will be informed about it.

The school keeps working

on international mindedness. Thank you to PTA for supporting students in the arrangement of international projects, competitions and actions. In March there will be another MUN conference which we hope will bring together more students from different places.

At present the School jointly with the Foundation is considering School Reconstruction and Resource Upgrade Plan (for the next academic year).

The school has established challenging goals which can be achieved only in cooperation with you, dear parents!

Christmas and New Year's Day will come very soon, so I wish you and your families strong health, love and prosperity!

Sincerely yours,

Irina Vlassyants,

Head of School

mirashead@almaty.miras.kz

Inside this issue:

Message from Secondary School Principal	2
Message from Primary School Principal / Student Council	3
PYP News	4
MYP News	5
CAS—MIRAS PARA SPORTS 2014	6
Calendar	7
Russian Culture Days	8



(Miras International School 15th Anniversary Concert)



Message from the Secondary School Principal

As Miras Almaty celebrates the 15 anniversary as an international school on Dec. 12, I'd like to thank each and everyone in our community for your contributions to our continued success.

In November, we were visited by a team of international educators with the intent of demonstrating our success and achievements as an international school to the CIS and NEASC organizations. We will get a full report soon, but the team went away impressed with the people, curriculum, culture and community of Miras Almaty.

Meanwhile, we have been busy with all kinds of activities since our last newsletter. We finished the apple season and continued our Apple Action CAS work with the students at the orphanage. We also held the parasports games, a Halloween "Disco", Extended Essay presentations, and Russian cultural days. The junior boys and the girls soccer teams were crowned CHAMPIONS in the international schools' league and we have elected Armanzhan Ayan (11IB) and Sebastian Powell (10D) respectively as our Student Council Leader and Vice Leader, who then led the day long Student Council Leadership workshop with over 30 participants.

Our Miras students continue to bring home awards in international competitions with the most recent being Irina Zemlyankina (11IB) (International Olympiad English (1st), Biology (1st) and Chemistry (3rd) in Turkey), and Arina Stremetskaya (10A), Kseniya Lukoshina (10D), Ankyunim Sailanbayeva (10A) and Kira Tityuk (10A) participated in the intellectual show "Leader of the XXI Century!" We also held the Russian Bear competition and there are many more awards to announce soon.

We have now started volleyball season and a group of 20 students are heading on an Economics and International Mindedness trip to Hong Kong over the December Holiday.

Thank you to all the parents who attended our parent/teacher conferences and parent workshops and please let us know if there is any way we can help your child be successful here at Miras International School.

I hope you have an enjoyable and refreshing holiday and the students will return on January 8th invigorated and prepared for the academic challenges and holistic activities of Semester 2 and 2015!

Happy Holidays!

James Lothschutz, Secondary Principal

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Secondary Principal

James@almaty.miras.kz



Students at the "Halloween Disco" which raised funds for the Parasports day CAS activity



Student receiving awards at the Monday Morning Assembly

Message from the Primary School Principal

Dear Parents, Students and Teachers,

I'd like to thank you all for your support in ensuring a positive learning environment for our students this term. Our 3 Way Conferences in November, with students, parents and Home Room Leaders discussing the achievements of students and setting future learning goals, was very successful. The End of Semester Reports were given out on the last day of Term Two and these will be discussed in our Parent – Teacher Conferences which will be held in January. Kindergarten to Grade 5 conferences will be on Wednesday 21st January 2015 and the Preschool meetings will be held over two days, 20th and 22nd of January 2015. Home Room Leaders, Language Teachers and Single Subject Teachers will be available to talk with you.

I wish you all a very happy New Year and look forward to working with you in 2015.

Trish Scott

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(Miras International School 15th Anniversary Concert)

Student Council - International AID's Day

On November 28th, Grades 11 and 12IB organized an event devoted to International AID's Day as part of their CAS project with the help of the Student Council. During the home-room, they made a small performance and afterwards, students who were wearing red clothing took a group photo in the atrium. With the help of AIDS day, students became aware of the issues dealing with AIDs. This event helped unite the whole school community on one important cause.

Student Council



GRADE FOUR'S FIELD TRIP TO METRO SUPERMARKET IN ALMATY



On Tuesday, October 14th, grade 4 had a well informed fieldtrip to Metro supermarket in Almaty. Our inquiry was about organizations and what they do to be successful.



First, we met Miss Victoria in front of the huge Metro store. She explained to our group how the organization of Metro functions.

Next we moved to a part of the shop where only the authorized employees of the Metro organization operate. It was explained to us what products Metro had in stock for their customers and clients.

After that we were informed that there



are so many large and heavy boxes that need to be stored. More or less fifty trucks deliver goods every single day at Metro store in Almaty. They

use forklifts to safely and effectively move them around in the aisles between the customers and staff.

Later on we visited the decoration room where we were introduced to the employee who does the decorating for Metro. Miss Victoria showed us some of the awesome stuff he creates for the store.



We saw all the colorful banners inside the shop that were made in this decoration room. The banners are used all over the shop to advertise the many products and grab the attention of the customers.

Miss Victoria also told us that there were numerous posters inside and outside this large shop.

Meanwhile we were given lots of interesting facts and information concerning the organization of Almaty supermarket, e.g. that one hundred and fifty people work in the Almaty store. There are seven stores in Kazakhstan; however there are seven hundred stores worldwide with the main office in Germany.

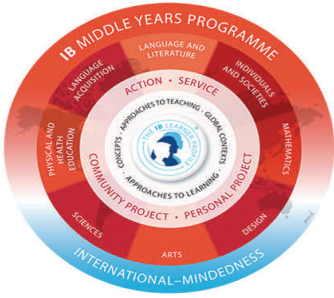


Eventually we returned to Miras just in time for lunch. We would recommend you to visit this well organized store of Metro.



MYP The Next Chapter (Global Contexts)

Dear Parents,



Making the whole school understand and apply MYP Next Chapter is crucial for our school and to do so, we had Global Contexts at the focus involving teachers and students alike.

In the First Semester, during the homeroom time, students worked on activities relating to Global Contexts and Approaches towards learning (thinking creatively, reflectively) to

understand more about global contexts and its importance to MYP.

Students were asked to match the Global contexts with focus questions and descriptions.

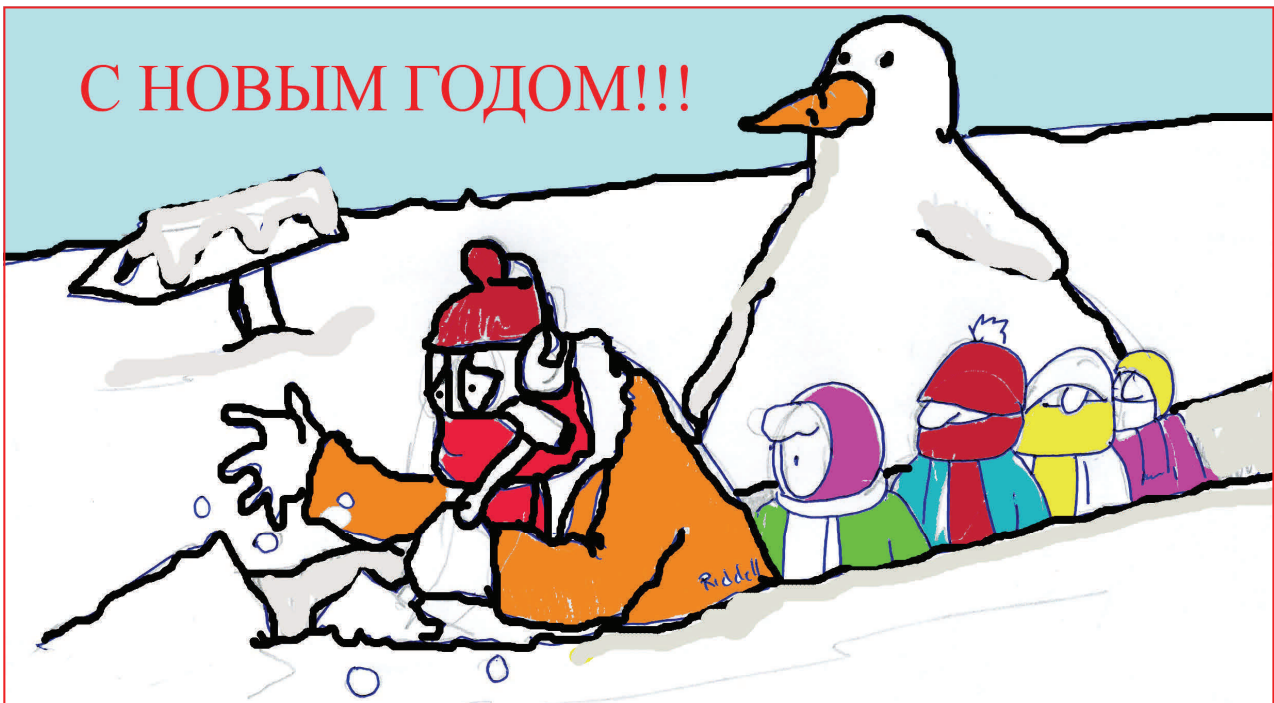
Students really enjoyed it and created some quality posters by enhancing their knowledge about Global contexts and realized how it is interconnected with different subject groups in MYP.

Overall, the activity was a great success.

Best regards,
Anna Mashura
Sanjeev Kumar



From the Student Guidance Counselor



CAS—MIRAS PARA SPORTS 2014

Dear all,

It gives me immense pleasure to announce that our DP students conducted 2nd Miras Para Sports successfully this year. It was conducted on Saturday that was on 22/11/14. As Miras School puts great emphasis on the holistic development of child, the event provided our students to develop many attitudes of IB Learning Profile such as open-mindedness, Caring and Balanced. This was a great learning opportunity for our IB DP CAS students to organize and conduct events of this size and nature. This helped them not only to understand sports but also realize the values of real life challenges and inspiration towards learning things by observing and helping para athletics. I hope this event has encouraged our students to develop values like:

- **Courage**
- **Determination**
- **Inspiration**
- **Equality**

Following are the sports events which were organized by the students.

- **Table tennis**
- **Darts**
- **Badminton**
- **Chess**

Kind regards,

Sanjeev Kumar

CAS coordinator



December, 2014

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
28	30	31				

Schedule of Events

- ◆ *December 1—First President's Day*
- ◆ *December 16-17-Kazakhstan Independence Day*
- ◆ *Last Day of 2nd Term*
- ◆ *December 22-Jan. 7th—Winter Break*
- ◆ *December 25-Western Christmas*

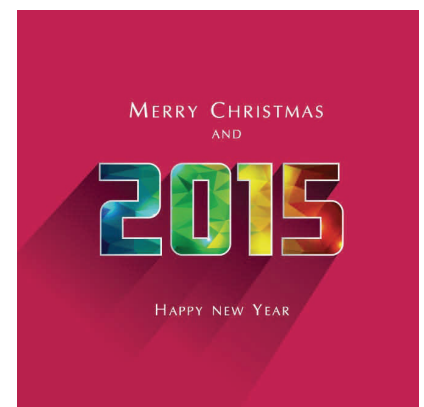


January, 2015

Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

Schedule of Events

- ◆ *January 1-2-New Years*
- ◆ *January 7-Orthodox Christmas*
- ◆ *January 8-First Day of 3rd Term*



Russian Culture Days



From October 6th - 17th, the Miras International School celebrated Russian Cultural Days. This event started on the first day with the playing of the Russian Anthem at the school assembly. Students also recited Russian poems and learned to play Russian games. The library held an ex-

hibition on M. Yu. Lermontov, a poet and painter, that gave students a perspective on this poet's wash drawings and paintings from his works.

Miras also celebrated a literary evening dedicated to the 200th Anniversary of M. Yu Lermontov's birth. Students explored the biography of this great poet and learned about the circumstances under which he died. They also got to enjoy listening to his poetry in Russian, English and Kazakh. Miras students performed an episode of "Маскарад" (Masked ball). A recurring theme of this literary composition is the character of a lone white sail and romances which play important parts in Lermontov's poetry. Besides students, representatives from the Russian Consulate, the Press and TV, and parents attended this event.

Throughout the Russian Cultural Days, students took part in many varieties of activities including Rus-

sian folk games and an exhibition of children's paintings. Students also had an opportunity to taste Russian food and see participants wearing traditional Russian national dress.

The Russian Cultural Days ended with a poem by A.S. Pushkin being recited in Russian, Kazakh, English and French. Overall, this cultural event enriched students' knowledge about Russian culture and traditions. It also demonstrated that every nation is inimitable and unique, and that the world is "one" and wonderful.



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Mission Statement:

Miras International School, Almaty integrates International Baccalaureate standards and practices with the best elements of the Kazakhstani education programme to offer students a quality education in a choice of three languages. The School greater purpose is to equip students to lead constructive and fulfilling lives, to appreciate and respect a diverse range of cultures and to have a sense of service and responsibility towards the world community.

School Website: <http://www.miras.kz>

