

2009-2019



**10 YEARS
OF THE CZECH
SCHOOL WITHOUT
BORDERS, LONDON**



A TIME TO REMEMBER

CZECH SCHOOL WITHOUT

My dearest,

You celebrate your 10th birthday. I have seen you grow and blossom, congratulations to you all! I don't know if I should say "Tenth already? How fast did it go by!", or "Only tenth? But we've known each other for so long!"

"A ten-year-old scholar in the Czech Republic would attend year four and would slowly decide whether to try an eight-year grammar school next year. The 10-year-old school has completed the entire first and second degree course, has not only taught its pupils the Czech language, but also involved its graduates in school and extracurricular activities, has been carefully educating its future pupils, preparing many projects, organising many extracurricular activities, has published a book... I can't even fit everything in here.

I wish you a lot of happy students and parents in the coming years and good luck to you!



Monika Slabá

Head of Unit

Compatriots and Organizational Affairs Unit

Department of International Relations

Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports

BORDERS, LONDON

Since 2012, I have been working with CSWB as part of my role as a Community Learning Consultant, and have been in charge of monitoring their provision funded by London Borough of Islington.

CSWB is a well-established charity, managed by the professional and committed people to promote the use of Czech language and culture in London. They provide a platform for their members to have intercommunity links and promote their knowledge of multiculturalism to promote integration in the multicultural society of London. Their partnership with different mainstream schools and community organisations in Islington are some examples of the effective steps they have been taking to achieve their aims. CSWB managed to design, organise and run a number of projects in partnership with mainstream and supplementary schools in Islington for children in key stages 1 & 2, which have been highly appreciated and commended by all the beneficiaries and stakeholders.

Two of such projects were:

The short animation film Let's Draw The Olympics, a celebration of the 2012 Olympics, created by more than 180 children from diverse ethnic backgrounds in Islington.

The e-book Lilacs of Peace, a commemoration of the 70th anniversary of the end of World War II, which tells the history of the war for primary schools aged children.

Working with CSWB has always been delightful for me and I hope to continue providing CSWB with my support & assistance.

Abed Moftizadeh
*Community Learning Consultant
Islington Council*



THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

The Board of Trustees of Czech School Without Borders was established in 2009. It was the moment when a number of children started to grow and there was a need to formalise our efforts within a legal framework to ensure a solid basis for expansion. The Board was recruited from parent volunteers and the school became a Company with limited guarantee. In 2012 we have also turned our school into a charity. Since then our team has worked continuously on changing our school into an efficient and professional organisation.



Petra O'Connell
Chair of The Board of Trustees



CELEBRATION



Ivon, my right hand.

In my name, the Czech School in London received an award for a great contribution to the education of new generations in the UK community. Many years have passed since our beginnings in 2007. My founding dream has come true and we have been saying goodbye to our ninth-grade students for the second year now, which seemed completely impossible at the beginning. I think it is very important to believe in what we do and make our dreams come true. I wish all our children good luck!



Zuzana Jungmanová
Founder, Co-Director and Senior Teacher



THIS YEAR'S NINTH-GRADE STUDENTS BACK THEN



ALUMNI



Matyáš, an assistant in year five, is a big help and a great support for both children and teachers. His positive attitude is inspiring and incredibly energising. It was only last year, when he was sitting in front of the blackboard himself, and perhaps for this reason, he has a deep understanding for pupils in year five. He is a good friend to them and also a great role model. Thank you, Matyáš!



Last school year Izzy finished her studies at the Czech School and since autumn of the same year she started to help children in year two. Izzy is very popular among children. She's a cheerful, kind, clever and patient helper we can rely on. She is certainly a great role model for our children, as well as an example of the fact that with diligence and great determination everyone can learn the Czech language. MANY thanks for everything, Izzy!

INTERNS



The interns have been contributing to the running of the school for several years.

SATURDAY SCHOOL



THIS IS HOW IT STARTED...



BABY GROUP



"Our group of the youngest is always very creative. We have no boundaries as we enjoy moving, singing, rhyming, art experiments and one another. We are always looking forward to each other. School by Play is hundred percent true to us!"



Zuzana Jungmanová
Co-Director
Senior Teacher (Baby group)



SPEECH AND LANGUAGE THERAPY



Since the academic year 2009 Czech school has been providing speech and language therapy screening for all children in reception class and to new starters in Y1. Parents are offered 1:1 feedback sessions with the speech therapist to discuss the outcomes of the assessment and recommendations for further treatment.



Jana Martykánová
Speech Therapist

LIBRARY

One of the most reliable ways to increase vocabulary in any language is reading. That is why we established the CSWB library in 2013. In the beginning, there were only 4 shelves of books in a tiny room in the St. David's Church. In 2016, on moving to St. Mary Magdalene's Academy there were already more than 500 books and no room for them. So, our library became a library on wheels, when every week we transport books in travel suitcases so we can offer them to our children at the academy at the time of their lessons or breaks and free of charge. And it's worth it! The pre-school kids, first-graders and year two pupils come to borrow books every week, the older pupils also come to us regularly and modern and classical literature for the young is also being discovered by the highest grades. The library keeps growing thanks to continuous donations and purchases. Of the current more than 900 books, there are always more than 300 borrowed. So we most probably have the biggest collection of Czech children's books in the world, outside of the Czech Republic.



Dagmar Kraft
Member of Trustee and Librarian
Helena Rýparová
Librarian



SINGING GROUP



The musical lesson „Hudební půlhodinka“ was founded by the trainees of CSWB, London in September 2018. Every Saturday morning, children sing Czech songs together with dance. Since the foundation, children have had the opportunity to show their abilities on several occasions, such as the celebration of a century of Czechoslovakia, with Christmas songs they performed on St Nicholas session and on the International Mother Tongue Day in Islington. They also prepared a short dramatic performance with Czech songs from films for the Summer Party. Moreover, “Hudební půlhodinka” is supported by the parents themselves, who accompany children by playing the musical instruments.



Kateřina Neuwirthová
Teacher



TEACHERS, ASSISTENTS, VOLUNTEERS, ...



WORKSHOPS



DRACZECH



DraCzech was initially a project for Czech children from our school. For a couple of months Adam and I prepared a beautiful play- Hrnecku, var! It was an amazing experience where we could see children getting more confident in their second language. From there we have successfully worked with children from Islington borough, where we mixed together all kinds of nationalities. We had a great time meeting all these young people through DraCzech.



Eliška Šustová
Teacher 2011 - 2014





RUN FOR BOOKS



In summer 2015, teachers and parents from the Czech School decided to grow their library. They got together and ran a 10K in order to raise money to buy some fabulous books for children's library. Not only the runners were busy, but the whole school got involved. Children designed beautiful T-shirts for the runners and many people came to support our team on the big day. The run was followed by a jolly picnic and fun activities for children. Thanks to everyone involved, the school was able to buy new beautiful Czech books and the library grew bigger.



Michaela Sanytrová
Teacher 2013 - 2016

RUDOLF'S GOLDEN NEF

In November 2014, Czech School Without Borders participated in a project at the British Museum. Thanks to this project, the children could visit the Clocks and Watches gallery and see the Great Neff. Lead by poet Sam Gayton, they composed a celebration poem and made a telescope from the times of the court of Rudolf II. But then.....The Neff disappeared. Where was it? Who stole it? What happened to it? As BBC news editors, the children interrogated the suspects and tried to unravel the mystery of the lost Neff. We don't remember what has happened actually. The important thing is that the Great Neff was found again...



Zuzana Šullová
Teacher 2016



SAINT NICHOLAS



The beginning of December is always magical. Czech Mikulas makes the whole pre-Christmas atmosphere even more exciting. Children just love to give to Mikulas their feedback about how good they were in the pass year. Mikulas's Angels and Devils are always watching too. How great it is to meet up with everyone from the Czech school community in Islington's church to celebrate this unique festival! Arty crafts, chorals and amazing Czech food! All under one roof just before Christmas. So have you been good this year?



Adam Hrabal
Teacher 2011 - 2016, Mentor



CZECHIMAGE



In the year of 100th celebration of establishment of Czechoslovakia, Czech School participated in a project called Czech Image. Each class ran different activities. Some compared Czech and English schools, other made a painting inspired by the Czech Anthem or rehearsed and played a theatre play based on 100 years old Czech history. Thanks to the project we could see the Czech culture through bilingual children's eyes.



Adéla Herbsová
Coordinator and Teacher



A NIGHT WITH ANDERSEN



A night with Andersen is an event, that takes place regularly in the 4th term. The pupils have a chance to spend a night together, while playing games, doing many creative activities, reading books, dancing etc. A night with Andersen has already been taking place for a couple of years and meets with a great success every time.



Hana Pospíšilová
Teacher, Mentor



WORKSHOPS IN LONDON'S MUSEUMS



Being a part of the workshop is like being on a great adventure where fun, knowledge and exploration are connected. We spend time with our students to open their mindsets to learn about the world around us and it's past via creative tasks and fun. We believe that our workshops develop not only knowledge but social skills among bilingual students which is one of the most important skills nowadays.



Veronika Prokopová
Senior Teacher



FAIRY-TALE WORKSHOPS



Magical world of Czech film fairytale fantasies and cartoons comes to life every autumn in one of London cinemas thanks to a kids afternoon organized by the Czech Centre London in collaboration with the Czech School without Borders, London. Part of the annual Made in Prague Film Festival, the event offers something for everyone - from photo opportunities with the famous Czech fairytale characters, dress up competitions to great hands-on craft activities inspired by the films. Kids can just enjoy the big screen entertainment and let their imagination run wild!



Petra Štorchová
*Production and Marketing Manager of
the Czech Centre, London*



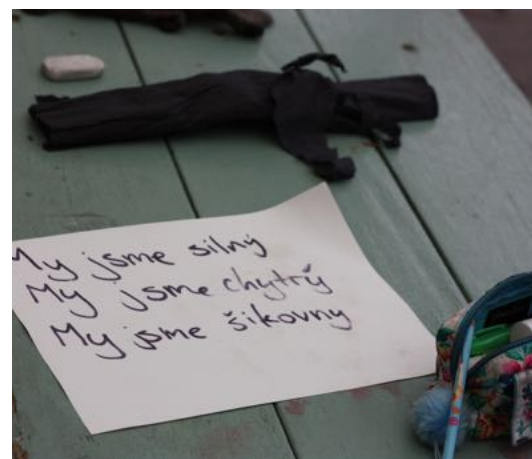
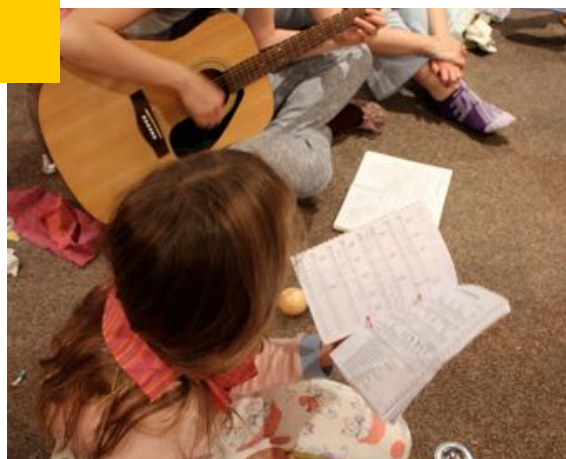
SUMMER PARTIES



CAMPS

Autumn camp is an event that every teacher taking part in it looks forward to. Four days spent in the lovely countryside accompanied by enthusiastic children is always a highlight of Autumn.

For some children it is the first time without parents, while some of the “regulars” grow into camp team leaders. This little adventure turns a sleepover out of London into a valuable experience.





INTERNATIONAL MOTHER TONGUE DAYS



Mother Tongue International day is a day where we get to appreciate as well as celebrate the languages we speak collectively at home and outside school and work. During this day, I had the opportunity to meet new communities, to learn about their culture and to celebrate the diversity in our society. I strongly believe that this is a special day, to admire how beautiful other traditions and cultures are, furthermore it was pleasantly spent time that should be remembered.



Miriam Quhali
Student - Year 9



INTERNATIONAL PROJECTS

We're an active member of the Islington Council's Mother Tongue Supplementary School Partnership (MTSSP) and we've been a successful recipient of several of the MTSSP grants. These grants enabled us to create English-language partnership projects with other Islington-based organisations, such as Highbury Quadrant Primary, Tufnell Park Primary, St Mary Magdalene Church, Light Project International and Islington Museum. Among such projects were a short animation film 'Let's Draw The Olympics', celebrating the 2012 London Olympics, an e-book called 'Lilacs of Peace' commemorating the 70th anniversary of the end of the Second World War, and most recently a series of art and poetry-writing workshops 'Taking Flight' on the theme of migration and immigration. These workshops have allowed us to reach out beyond our community and find new friends and partners in the wonderful, diverse and inspiring London borough of Islington that has been our home since 2009.



Lucie Wenigerová
*Treasurer of
The Board of Trustees*

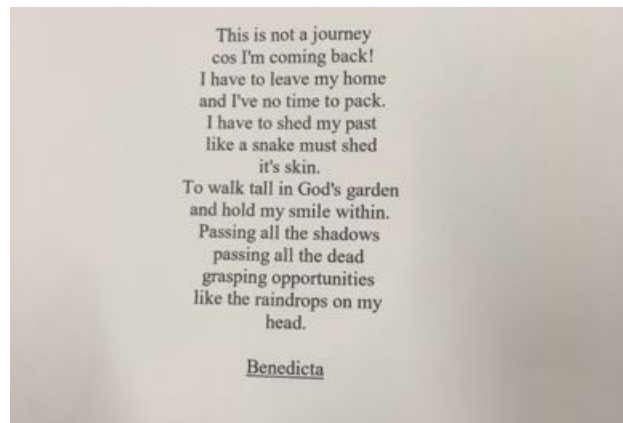


LILACS OF PEACE





TAKING FLIGHT



LET'S DRAW THE OLYMPICS



BABEL TOWER



SUNDAY SCHOOL



For several years Sunday school complemented Saturday school and gave opportunity to learn Czech to children who would be otherwise unable to attend the school on Saturdays. Lessons took place at the Czech Centre and welcome a group of circa 15 pupils. Some of them were trilingual and attended other supplementary schools or they were the second generation. However, their bonds to the Czech Republic and relatives were strong enough to come and discover Czech language and culture through rhymes, games and stories. Lesson were delivered by team of enthusiastic teachers and interns. To bring laughter and joy to children's faces when speaking Czech and playing with their Czech friends was the goal which had been accomplished every Sunday



Markéta Grígelová
Teacher 2015 - 2017



WELCOMING SPECIAL GUESTS



Workshops on bilingualism
with Dr Froso Argyri, Child
bilingualism researcher at UCL



A visit of the famous Czech
violinist Julie Svěcená



A lecture by
professor Jan Marek,
specialist in prenatal and
paediatric cardiology at Great
Ormond Street Hospital

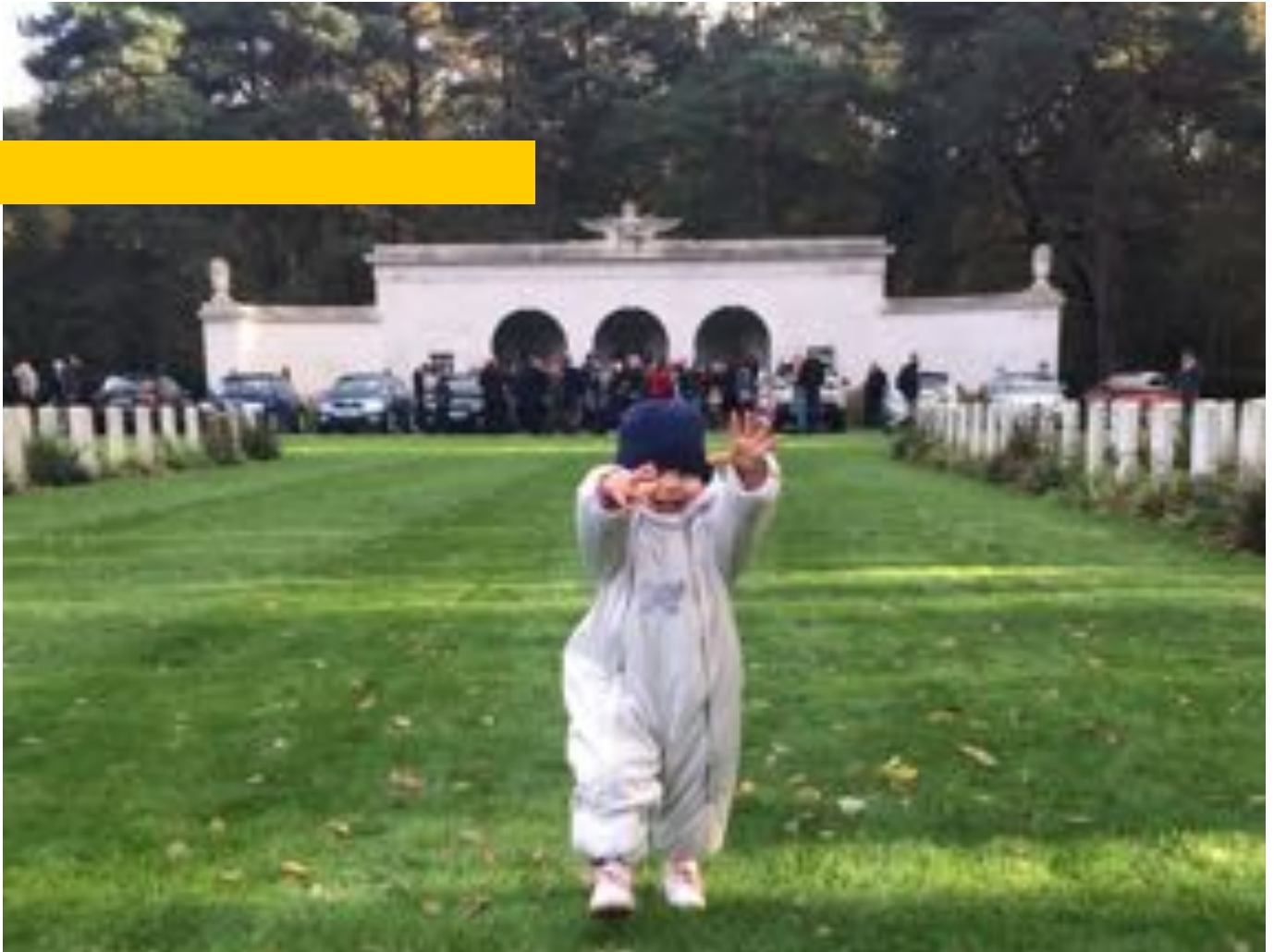


HARPENDEN

Czech School Without Borders in Harpenden is a group of children of mixed age and very different level of Czech language meeting on Wednesday afternoons. Together with teachers, volunteers, students and parents we encourage children to have positive approach for Czech language, history, culture and traditions. To make the learning more fun, we spent significant time outdoors playing games and exploring. The school terms have interesting themes (for example Czech books, magic or most recent prehistoric time). Parents play a vital role in helping to organize special celebration days, preparing Czech food, and joining in some of the old Czech traditions. In 2019 we had absolutely amazing event Masopust.

Kateřina Filipová
Senior Teacher in Harpenden





BROOKWOOD

Every year we take part in a ceremony honouring Czechoslovakian war heroes at the Military Cemetery in Brookwood. It was held by Memorial Association for Free Czechoslovak Veterans and attended by the Czech Deputy Ambassador and representatives of Czech, Slovak, Polish, Australian and US armed forces. This year we joined our colleagues from Czech School Okénko in singing Czech, Slovakian and British national anthems. We were supported by a delegation of Czech Boy Scouts and together formed a numerous mixed choir. After the ceremony, we listened to an interesting lecture given by Nina Buckley, a daughter of hero Vaclav Bozdech. Finally, we joined the Boy Scouts at the refreshment tent to celebrate our Czech national heritage in a more relaxed and informal way. We enjoyed the whole event very much, and are already looking forward to the next year.

Štěpán Weinzettl
Teacher



WHAT ELSE?



INDIVIDUAL LESSONS



Tereza Pešíčková
Teacher 2015 - 2019

Not everyone is lucky enough to come to lessons at the Czech School every Saturday. There are children attending other supplementary schools, living too far away from Islington or children who just need a little bit of extra help as Czech may not be their first nor even second language. But, they are still keen to learn Czech. During last three years I have had the opportunity to teach few of these children, meeting them in libraries, cafés, and their homes - or via my computer screen. The best thing about these lessons is the possibility to fit and adjust the lesson to every particular child and make sure they will enjoy it at the same time. As a teacher, it is always a pleasure to see how their Czech is improving week after week.



CZECH FOR ADULTS

Czech language courses for adults are offered to parents whose children attend the Czech School. They take place at the same time in the same building so it's very convenient. The course is designed as a step by step guide for complete beginners focusing on the practical use of the language. Join us and have fun talking to the Czech part of your family.

František Klepáč

CONTESTS



CZECH LANGUAGE OLYMPICS

The Czech School without Borders, London joined the international Czech language Olympics, which was organized by the Czech Schools Without Borders Association. Six children from years two to six completed a test that evaluated their reading, understanding, writing, and knowledge of Czech proverbs and sayings. The Czech School Without Borders, London is very pleased, not only with great participation, but also with the results.



LITERARY ALMANACH

This contest was held by pupils of the eighth and ninth grades. The participants of this contest were asked to write a story on any topic in a team of 2-3 pupils on a maximum of 500 words. Some very interesting and original stories were created. Then, the results of the competition were announced by pupils of the eighth and ninth grades who also awarded the winners a diploma and a reward. Not only the winners, but all the participants deserved a big applause.



EXAMS



Renata Clark
Vice-Chair of
the Board of Trustees

Since 2018 the Czech School without Borders London in collaboration with the Czech Centre organises for Year 8 and 9 students the Czech Language Certificate Exam which tests their language skills in listening comprehension, reading comprehension, writing, speaking and grammar. Last year a number of students received a certificate from the Institute of Language and Preparatory Studies, Charles University Prague, for successfully passing B1, B2 and even C1 level. We wish all the best to students taking exam this year and hope that they will be as successful as their predecessors.



BOOKS

We have our own exercise books.

AND...?



Sometimes it is well needed to clean up properly ...



... and then, it is nice to have a good coffee together ...



... or a shared breakfast?

WE CREATE...



WE PERFORM...



BUT MOST IMPORTANTLY WE HAVE FUN!





**AND WE LOOK FORWARD TO
ANOTHER 10 SUCCESSFUL YEARS!**

