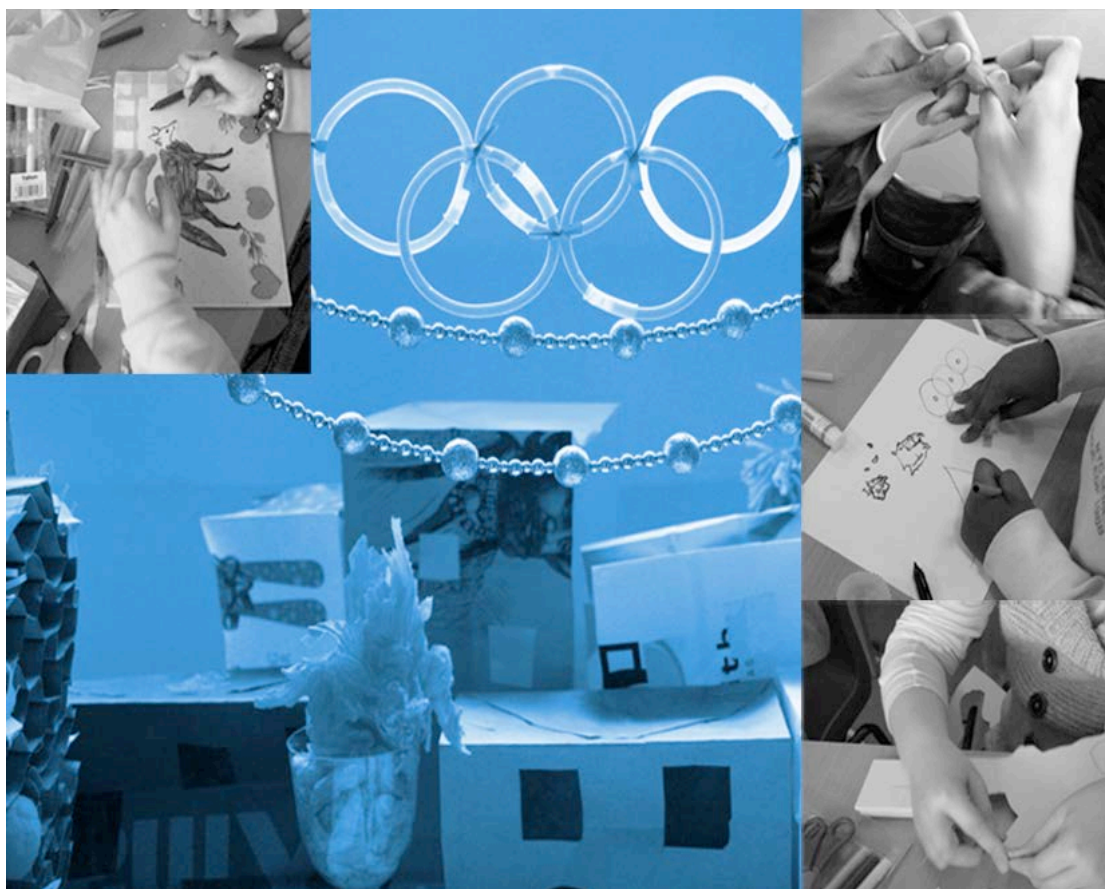


Annual Report

Czech School without Borders, London 2011/12



13 Harley Street, W1G 9QG, London

www.czechschool.org.uk



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A letter from the Chair

December 3, 2012

Dear friends / Milí přátelé,

It has been another busy year. Our school, the Czech School Without Borders, London, now counts more than 100 children regularly attending our Saturday classes in St Mary Magdalene Church on Holloway Road; our Wednesday classes in Harpenden; and our Sunday classes 'Steps Towards Czech' in the Czech Centre on Harley Street. As such, we all form a vibrant and engaged Czech-speaking community, one of the largest of its kind in the UK, and one that is constantly growing!

The year 2012 also saw our School open itself to the wider British public. We made a ten minute short, 'Let's Draw the Olympics!'; while collaborating with Islington-based children from four other organisations. The film premiered in London and Prague to an overwhelmingly enthusiastic response and was shown at the opening of the Czech House, the official venue of the Czech Republic during the London 2012 Olympics. It is my great pleasure to let you know the film will become available on Youtube as of the beginning of 2013.

By opening ourselves to, and involving, the wider London public, we were successful to tap into British sources of financial support for the first time, namely from Mother Tongue & Supplementary School Partnership and Islington Councils' Community Chest. It is our aim to continue such successful partnerships in the future. In addition, we have received further grants from the Czech Ministries of Education and Foreign Affairs and the Czechoslovak Foreign Institute. Representatives of the Ministry of Education recently visited our School and have responded positively to our activities. It is fabulous news that the Ministry of Education is committed to further financial support of our School until 2014. We have recently lodged our application to Charities House to become a registered charity. Once our status is approved, further funding opportunities will also open to us.

Finally and very importantly, the school fees that we all pay form a crucial source of income for the running of our School. The school fees have remained the same since 2009 and all of us on the Management Committee are committed to keep the same levels of the school fees for years to come.

Here is to another exciting year!

*Wishing you a very merry Christmas and a happy and successful New Year 2013!
Krásné Vánoce a šťastný a úspěšný Nový rok 2013!*

*Lucie Wenigerová
Chair*



1 Czech School without Borders, London - overview

Czech School without Borders, London

A Company Limited by Guarantee, no 7323697

Director: Zuzana Jungmanová

Management Committee:

Lucie Wenigerová, Chair

Renata Clark, Vice Chair

Jakub Pachanský, Treasurer

Renata Rust, Secretary

Petra O'Connell, Member

Staff:

Iva Hopkins, Cashier

Blanka Jaurisova, Head Teacher

Jana Martykánová, Speech Therapist

Pavla Yeats, Teacher

Ivona Klemensová, Teacher

Adam Hrabal, Teacher

Eliška Šustová, Teacher

Michaela Jeřábek, Teacher

Kateřina Filipová, Teacher

Michaela Sanytrová, Teacher Assistant

Veronika Korytáková, Teacher Assistant

Veronika Prokopová, Teacher Assistant

Jitka Qorri, Teacher Assistant

3. Czech School without Borders, London

was involved in a lot of interesting activities last year.

One of the most interesting topics of the autumn 2011 and the whole year 2012 was the beautiful Summer Olympic Games in London. We managed to get a substantial financial contribution from the Czech Olympic Committee, Czech Centre in London and Islington Council, who provided support in our efforts and we embarked on creating an exceptional project of making an animated film „Let's draw the Olympics!”



- ‘Let's Draw the Olympics!’ is an Olympic project by the Czech School without Borders, London for Czech-English bilingual children and children based in Islington, London. It represents a child's eye view of the world while mediating London reality and the idea of the Olympic Games to children who are not familiar with it. **180 Czech and British children** aged 2 – 12 from five London-based institutions created their own images of the Olympics during a series of **56 art workshops**. The children used recycled material and various techniques like drawing, painting, doubling/backing, frottage and collage to create **500 pictures and art pieces** for the visual aspects of the film. The resulting film by the artist Zuzana Jungmanova is a 2D art montage which uses the principles of animation to illustrate a child's naïve view of the world.

The film is **dedicated to Jessie, a former pupil of the Czech School without Borders**, who is seriously ill. The main character in the story is Jessie, a little girl who due to her illness cannot go and see the Olympics. A group of animals living in the neighbourhood of the British Museum - Cockroach, Pigeon, Squirrel, Fox and Mouse, decide to organize their own Olympic Games to make her happy. They build the Olympic stadium right in front of her window. Cockroach in red races on a bike, Mouse in green competes in the high jump, black fencers Fox and Squirrel fight fair, Pigeon in gold sprints and the grand finale is horse racing in blue when all the animals participate.

Five stories in the five colours of the Olympic rings are related to topics such as London, the Olympic Games and friendship. Even though the film takes place in London in summer 2012, it is inspired by the British Museum and especially by **Olympic scenes from ancient Greek vases**. Reimagined images of wrestling or disc throwing remind us of the ancient history of the games which intertwine with the modern event. Another inspiration comes from **František Kupka, especially from his painting Fugue in Two Colours**.

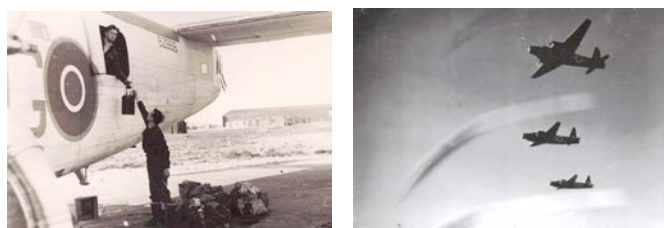
Another important element is the **connection between Czech and British cultural traditions**. Jessie is a bilingual Czech-British girl, in her bedroom there are both Czech and English books, in the telephone booth the ads are in both languages and the main musical theme is created through the Czech song Pod našimi okny teče vodička and the English song Horsey, Horsey sung by children. The film itself has two language versions. The Czech one is narrated by **Pavel Soukup**, the English one is accompanied by the voice of **Michael Griffiths**.

LET'S DRAW THE OLYMPICS!

Director: Zuzana Jungmanova. Produced by the Czech School without Borders, London and the Czech Centre London. United Kingdom 2012, 10', digibeta/DCP, Czech and English

language versions. The film was created thanks to a financial contribution from the Czech School without Borders, London, Czech Centre London, Cambridge Education@Islington and Islington Council's Community Chest. The project was created in collaboration with four Islington based partner organizations: Beckett House Montessori Nursery, Highbury Quadrant Primary, St Mary Magdalene Church and Academy, and Light Project International.

Another unique and lovely activity organized last year by the Czech School without Borders, London, was an educational art workshop dedicated to Czechoslovak pilots, which was held at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in London.



- **War Through Children's Eyes and Meeting Czech Veterans**

On the 23rd of October 2011 Czech School without Borders organized an all-day workshop for children and their parents called War Through Children's Eyes and Meeting Czech Veterans. The purpose of the project was not only to provide our pupils with an insight into an integral part of our history, but also to introduce them to day-to-day life of the Second World War era. The program was divided into two parts.

The first part kicked off in the morning at the Imperial War Museum, where 24 pupils met with their hero of the morning, Chief warrant officer Pavel Becak. All children were in immediate awe of his uniform and learned about his occupation and the awards he received. CWO Becak also explained the significance of each ribbon and medal on his uniform and talked to the children about uniforms that used to be worn in Second World War. Children then took up the chance to ask the CWO many interesting questions. The next task was to draw the CWO's uniform, detailing all awards he received. The morning session was concluded by The Children's War exhibition which looks at the Second World War through the eyes of children providing a unique insight. Our pupils could enter the life-size 1940s house in the heart of the exhibition, see where children and parents used to take shelter during bombing raids and learn about the use of gas masks. Children were also encouraged to imagine how families used to eat in the war era and how children used to play.

After a lunch break, all groups transferred to the Embassy of the Czech Republic in London where the second part of the project commenced. Children and their parents met with Czech veteran Lieutenant Colonel Arnost Polak whose narration captivated equally the young and adult part of the audience. Pupils were keen to hear all details about the life of pilots during the SWW, where pilots slept and what they ate; and were curious about the model of the plane Lt Col Polak brought with him. Whilst parents chatted away with Lt Col Polak, children dived into the last part of the afternoon where they could use their unlimited creative minds. Some worked on painting planes others painted parts of a plain model, the assembly of which marked the end of an exciting day.

During the whole school year pupils from Reception to Year 4 regularly attended school lessons which took place at St Mary Magdalene Church and also at St Mary Magdalene Academy in Islington. In July 2012 our pupils successfully passed exams in Czech language,

which became optional two years ago. Our team of staff has expanded to meet growing needs; several new teachers and volunteers joined us committing a great deal of their time and effort to providing quality care and valuable input. The school lesson plans were carefully prepared for all year groups and children were taught under the supervision of the speech therapist. According to the Framework Educational Programme for Elementary Education of the Czech School without Borders, Prague, we have been trying to develop and establish the new curriculum content which would be more specific and which would fit in well with the needs of our children.

In addition, all Saturday lessons are accompanied by two preschool groups; the youngest children attend their lessons in the morning, alternating with older preschool pupils at noon.

We also very successfully continue with our Sunday lessons which take place at the Czech Centre London in Harley Street, and with our Wednesday lessons in Harpenden. The number of children in both groups is increasing which indicates how popular the lessons are among the Czech community.

Czech School without Borders, London, provides regular education to more than a hundred children who attend the school once a week. When extra curricular activities are held, such as arts, educational and entertaining workshops, even children from different parts of England come to join us. Every year we expand with one class and in the autumn 2013 we are going to move to bigger premises at St David Church, where we will be able to extend our services provided to Czech children living in Great Britain.

With kindest regards,

Zuzka Jungmanova, Director

4. Calendar of Activities

September, October, November 2011

- *The Beginning of the School Year at Czech School without Borders, London*
- *The Workshop Dedicated to Czechoslovak Pilots, The Embassy of the Czech Republic in London*



- ***The Arts Workshop and Czech Fairytale “Stick, Start Beating!” in Riverside Studios***

The typical Czech fairytale Stick, Start Beating! (Jaromír Pleskot, 1955) was screened at the Riverside Studios in November 2011. The screening was a part of the annual film festival Made in Prague organised by the Czech Centre London. The Czech School without Borders prepared an attractive programme for all children. After watching the fairytale about a poor musician who is deceived by a greedy innkeeper, about thirty children took part in the art workshop and competitions. Children created magical napkins, frisky batons, and very authentic hash-and-crumbs sausages. Besides, the little contestants showed what they remembered from the story, and how they would deal with the situations that the kind-hearted main character faced. One of the most popular tasks became baton beating. As it happens in every fairytale the children were also rewarded for their effort, in this case with chocolate coins. Veronika and Ladislav Prokopovi accompanied the event by singing and playing the violin. During the afternoon children not only gained hand-made magical objects but also a useful lesson for life and had an opportunity to make new friends from the Czech School without Borders.



• *December, St Nicolas Day 2011*

Mikulášský program

15:00 začátek
koledy
vánoční povídání
představení Živý Betlém
vánoční workshopy
příchod Mikuláše
18:00 závěrečné rozloučení

Svažené víno
Prodej kalendářů na nový rok 2012
Zdobení perníčků a české tradice

- Program od 3hod. do 6hod. vstup £10 za dítě
Přivítáme příspěvek za víno

St Mary Magdalene Church, Holloway Road, N7 8LT



January, February, March 2012

• *The Olympic Workshops in Islington*

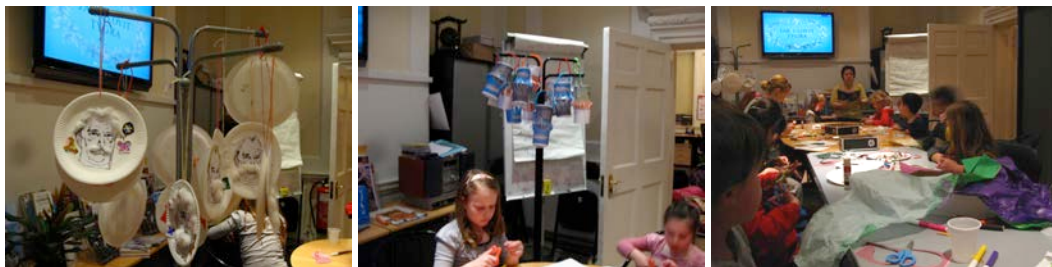
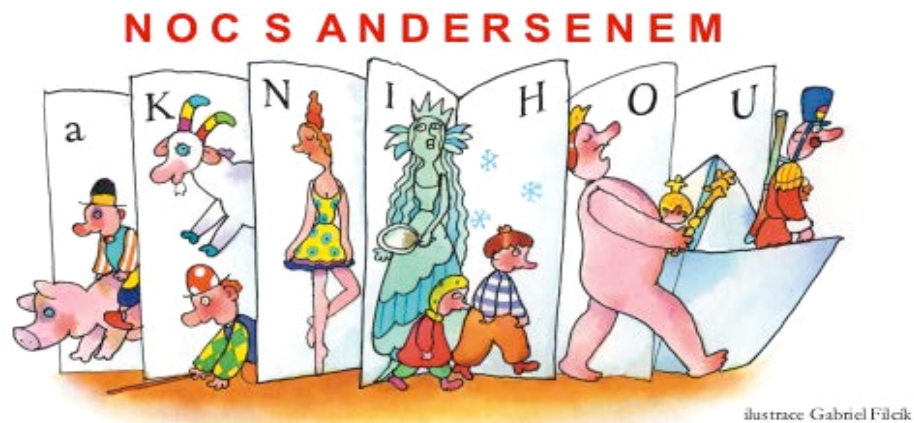


April, May 2012

- *Creating an Animated Film „Let's Draw the Olympics!“*



- *The Night with Andersen in the Czech Centre in London*



- *International Children's Exhibition of Fine Art Lidice 2012*

Czech School participates in the 40th Exhibition of Fine Art Lidice. This year commemorates the birth of Jiří Trnka, a great artist and one of the most important figures of Czech animated film. Our children were making puppets inspired by Trnka's book and animated film Zahrada. Little puppeteers enjoyed creating of newspaper based puppets. Everyone chose his or her own character that could appear in the secret garden, either one of the boys that discovers what is behind the wall, or animals that could appear in the garden.



Three of our children won in the world competition and ten children received certificates of merit.

- *The Prague Premiere of the Film “Let’s Draw the Olympics!” and Exhibition “Žijeme Londýnem!”*

The premiere of Let’s draw the Olympics will take place as a part of the exhibition Žijeme Londýnem in Czech Centre Prague (31st May – 30th Jun 2012). The film will be accompanied by the children’s art work from the workshops.

“The aim of the project was to show that art has no borders and that children and adults of different origin, of different religious background and coming from different parts of the world can meet and cooperate. We tried to demonstrate that the Olympic Games are not only a sport battle but also an example of tolerance and friendship.”

Zuzana Jungmanová, director of Czech School Without Borders London



June, July and October 2012

- ***Exams in Czech Language***
- ***Continuing Workshops to Present the Film “Let’s Draw the Olympics!” in London***

1. Olympic workshop Holloway Arts Festival, Wittington Park
2. Olympic workshop Holloway Arts Festival, The platform
3. Olympic workshop St Mary Magdalene Church, Islington
4. Olympic workshop Refugee week in Islington
5. Olympic workshop Highbury Quadrant Primary School, Islington



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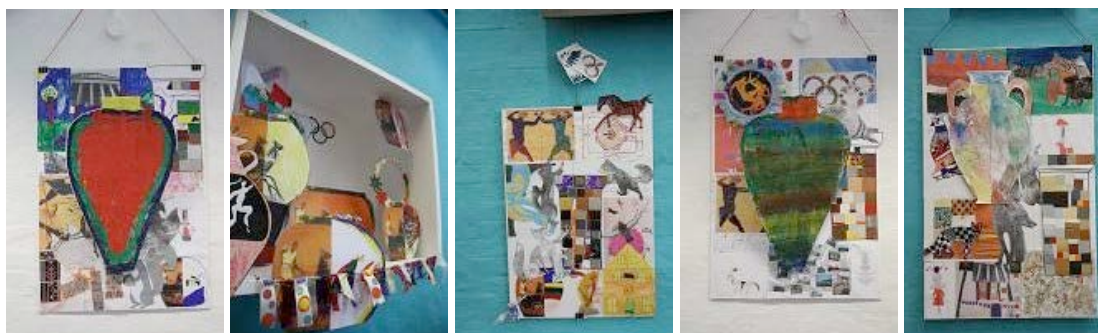


5.



August 2012

- Presentation of the Film "Let's Draw the Olympics!" Cambridge Education@Islington



July 2012

- *The Summer Party at the Embassy of the Czech Republic in London*

"Summer Party"



- Film
- Performances
- Olympic sports
- Bouncy castle
- Art workshops
- Face painting
- Games

15.07. 2012
2 - 5pm

Embassy of the Czech Republic
26 Kensington Palace Gardens
London W8 4QY

Adults (members) £7
Adults (non-members) £14
free admission for children
RSVP by 9 July essential info@czechschool.org.uk

czech school without borders london



September 2012

- *The Beginning of the New School Year at Czech School without Borders, London*

