

Annual Report 2019/2020



JSME PLNĚ ONLINE! Mluvím, mluvíš, mluvíme!

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SCHOOL

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Czech School Without Borders, London

26-30 Kensington Palace Gardnes, Kensington, London W8 4QY Registred Charity Number: 1151158 Company Number: 7323697

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Dear Members, Friends,

The school exists to provide further education for its pupils in Czech language, history and culture. The trustees have considered the Charity Commission's Guidance on public benefit and consider that they have fulfilled their duties in the light of that guidance.

The charity's key objective is to provide a quality education in Czech language and to maintain and enhance the academic success of the school. The charity achieves its objectives through the energy and devotion of its trustees, senior staff, teachers, assistant teachers and volunteers.

Our volunteers form an important part of our school and thanks to the dedication of their own time our charity can flourish and develop. The trustees are volunteers who run the charity. We also have volunteers who assist in our classes, usually university graduates who want to gain experience of living and working abroad, coming through the Erasmus program or who live in Britain and are interested in helping in our school. We have been lucky to find fantastic volunteers amongst our parents who run our library, help with reading with our children and assist in other ways. By volunteering all volunteers receive professional experience which they can use to enhance their work record.

Our other objectives for the year included:

- to broaden our academic curriculum, including developing educational materials for our pupils
- to improve efficiency in running the charity
- to provide continuing support for our pupils already in receipt of assistance with fees
- to provide necessary training to our staff
- to continue strategic planning for the growth of the school
- to continue strengthening our relationships with other supplementary schools and organisations in the Borough of Islington
- to continue strengthening our relationship with other organisations providing a Czech education in Great Britain and abroad and other Czech bodies in the UK.

Achievements and performance

The Charity has an open and constructive relationship with its teachers, assistant teachers, volunteers and parents who are encouraged to actively contribute to school life. The trustees communicate with members mainly through senior staff and have at least two meetings with members a year including an AGM. The relationships with funders are strong and enduring.

The main school activities take place on Saturday. The school provides an education from preschool to Year 9 (the equivalent of Year 10 in English education system). Classes take place in *St. Mary Magdalene Academy in the London Borough of Islington. Our school also provides a Wednesday class taking place in Harpenden. In total the school has approximately 200 children.*

We are proud to provide many other activities throughout our academic year. In Spring 2019 we had our traditional Night with Anderson when children had a sleepover in a church. We have organised Holiday Clubs for our children which took place during school holidays i.e. April, May and October 2019 and February 2020. Children had an exciting time in the clubs packed with lots of interesting activities. In June 2019 Czech School celebrated 10th Anniversary at the Czech Embassy with many children, their parents and special guests i.e. Czech Government representatives who were in the UK at that time. In October we took part in an event whereby three folklore dance ensembles (two from London, one from the Czech Republic) met at the Czech Embassy, each of which shared a piece of their work. In October we also went to our traditional four-day Autumn Camp at Cudham Environmental Activity Centre on the outskirts of London. In November Czech Republic celebrated the 30th Anniversary of the Velvet Revolution. In relation to this historical event, we organised a gathering at Saturday School with all the pupils. Furthermore, we co-organised with other Czech and Slovak organisations in UK a celebration at the Czech Embassy. In January, the Co-Director of Czech School was invited to UCL in order to talk to the students about her experience as a headmistress of the CSWBL. In February we took part of an event organised on the occasion of Mother Tongue International Day at Islington Town Hall, where some of our children were acknowledged for their efforts to learn a mother tongue language by the Mayor of Islington. Czech School also represented itself by its choir. All these celebrations, holiday clubs and other activities add an important dimension to school life when all ages of children can get together and have an opportunity to improve their Czech knowledge in a more relaxed environment.

We also see our school as a part of the wider community especially in the borough of Islington where we assist the community without detriment to the education of our pupils; we are delighted to contribute in this way. Our ongoing projects provide after school clubs to Islington based primary schools. We have previously created through those clubs an e-book themed around WW2 called Lilacs for Peace together with follow up clubs and exhibitions. We also organised an exhibition in the Local History Centre of the Islington Museum. In autumn 2017 we put together a workshop on the subject of migration called Taking Flight. The poems that children wrote while attending the workshop were presented in the spring 2018 on International Mother Tongue Supplementary School Day. Most recently, we have successfully delivered an after-school club entitled "Fun Fairy Tales' for KS2 pupils in the Tufnell Park Primary in Islington. All those projects were fully funded by a London Borough of Islington Mother Tongue and Supplementary School Grant and we were therefore able to offer these clubs to children free of charge.

Plans for the future

The trustees would like to thank Petra O'Connell for all the 9 years of dedicated work for CSWB in the capacity of a Trustee and later on the Chair of Trustees. Petra was an instrumental member of the team that achieved so much since its establishment and always represented our school in a passionate and professional manner. Petra left the Board of Trustees in June with a legacy of a very well managed organization in a good financial position, which is even more important at uncertain times like these caused by Brexit and Covid-19. I would like to thank Petra for everything that she has achieved and helped to achieve for our school. I am looking forward to continuing our relationship as a parent at the school and wish Petra best of luck for the future.

The trustees intend to continue their current strategies of maintaining the quality of education of the school and continue to improve the efficiency of the charity. They will continue to nurture the relationship with our current grant providers in order to strengthen the financial position of our charity.

The trustees will also continue to develop our strong relationship with other supplementary schools and organisations in the Borough of Islington, where the main school is based and other Czech organizations in the UK.

The senior staff, teachers, assistant teachers and volunteers will continue to provide high quality education for our pupils. The senior staff reviews the curriculum to ensure that it remains appropriate for our pupils' development and reflects the specific needs of our English-Czech bilingual children.

Written by Jana Ernoult Chair Czech School Without Borders, London



• Preschool group A and Baby Group

Veronika Prokopová, Petra Přibylová, Pavla Shaw, Jana Rekab Djarbi Baraková,

Martina Victorio, Amelia North and Zuzana Jungmanová

Our youngest preschoolers in group A joined the Baby group this school year and formed a strong and formidably creative group

Throughout the year the children encountered many mythical creatures from Večerníček as well as from classical stories. We recounted stories about Krteček, played as Křemílek and Vochomůrka and met the fairy Amálka. Our stories were always intertwined with playful rhymes, lovely Czech songs accompanied with dances and games. The children crafted fabulous creations from animals to flower filled fields and colourful butterflies.

Thanks to the parents and little preschoolers, a small but wonderful community was formed, one that eagerly got together and exchanged their experiences and ideas. Aided by creative art and motor activities, the children practiced their fine motor skills. Our children slowly but surely became accustomed to various new tools such as scissors, glue and an abundance of new materials.

Thankfully, we were able to journey together, even with our smallest children, into the world of online teaching. With fantastic help from the parents it became possible to continue to meet with the children and sustain our fantastic community.

• Preschool group B

The Primary aim of the preschool group was to form a positive relationship with the Czech Language and to broaden their vocabulary using traditional stories and songs. In the 2019/2020 school year, the older preschoolers, who visit the Kids Art Club from 11:30 to 14:00, were taught using projects. For each Half term, a single story was selected from which the children used to further their knowledge from various thematic areas. For example, in the story 'About the large beet', the children learnt how to name family, fruit, vegetables and seasons. All was taught through movement games, singing, dancing and last but not least, art activities, during which the children improved their motor skills and reinforced their dexterity.

Thanks to the extension of our teaching time, the oldest group of preschoolers, Ježci, had the opportunity to prepare separately for year zero. This Half hour significantly helped with their communication and deeper understanding of more complex topics.

Throughout the school year and even during online teaching, our mascots, the hedgehog Jenda and squirrel Venda accompanied the children, took them home and wrote a diary about them. Jenda and Venda also appeared in our special worksheets, which the children from the Czech school created fantastically according to topics given by Petra.

Online teaching came with many new obstacles and opportunities on how to communicate with the children, interest them and bring about a response from them. The support of parents in homework and during the teaching itself was fantastic and thanks to them all it was possible to successfully continue in our online teaching. Thank you to all the children who showed us a bit of their homes, our mutual bond deepened as a result. They were fantastic visits into your rooms and it was a joy to watch over the children throughout all their activities. Our aim in even the next year is to keep motivating and strengthening the children's positive connection to the Czech language and the Czech land.





Andrea Seidlerová, Alice Kovaříková and Babetka Clark

This year has been a very special one for all of us. Even our class of 5 year olds had to go online from March. Our little students and us teachers had to adapt from one Saturday in the academy to going fully online the following weekend. The transition went really well and we have had a lot of fun every Saturday in the real but also in the online world.

In September children met our classroom "friends" Panda Vanda and Pandička Vandička for the first time ever. Panda Vanda goes home with a different child each Saturday, they enjoy their week, take lots of pictures and write about their adventure in our Panda Vanda's Diary. Pandička Vandička is a child of Panda Vanda, it is a little panda who is eager to read in Czech therefore helps our children to read at home too.

During this year we have been learning the Czech alphabet, new words; playing Czech games such as sibenice, jednosmerka, osmismerka, but we also covered more serious topics such as recycling and how to protect our Planet. We also sang a lot of songs and our intern, Michal, always played on his guitar and piano to create a real experience for the students. We should not forget about the dancing! Yes! We have even danced through Zoom, nothing can stop our class from being interactive and fun. Our favourite song of the year was "Zabicka" which allowed us to exercise our mouth so we could pronounce some of the most challenging Czech letters easily. Everytime this song was on – all student's eyes simply lit up with joy and everyone joined in on the singing with Andrea and Alice.

Children have been enjoying the art activities very much, and always proudly showed their crafts to their parents after each class. How did we manage to keep creating these amazing crafts online? For each Saturday, our very talented intern Michal prepared a video with a step by step guide, so children can even enjoy making things after class with their siblings or parents.

The aim of Year 0 is to show children that learning the Czech language and exploring its culture can be enjoyable and fun! Our classes are interactive and we encourage all of our students to speak Czech more, little by little, at every occasion – only practice makes perfect. We have done our best to prepare every minute of our Saturday class to be interesting so that every student feels included. We know that this year has been a challenging one, but we are extremely proud of every single student in our class and how well they adapted and improved their Czech language skills!

• Year 1

Lucie Bařáková and Karolína Kališová

The school year 2019/20 was a very unusual one. The shift to online tuition in mid-March 2020 required a significant adjustment in terms of both the time and ways to cover the syllabus. Many of our favourite activities including working in pairs and groups, writing on the big board, watching Czech fairy tales during lunch break, singing, reading rhymes and doing skits were replaced with conversation and exercises in front of computer screens. All our pupils deserve recognition for embracing the changes and learning to thrive in their new learning environment.

We continued to practise reading individual letters, syllables, words and sentences. Focusing on reading comprehension and vocabulary, the children were encouraged to answer questions, build sentences, follow stories and describe various situations. In the 'World Around Us' classes we learnt, among other topics, about our homes, daily and weekly programmes, schools, towns, road safety, animals, nature, health and time.

• Year 2 - Kaštany

Štěpánka Bulířová, Ilona Shaw and Aimie Korn

In Year Two group Kaštany we welcomed a group of smart, cheerful children keen to interact with their classmates and also learn a bit of something new in the Czech language every Saturday. The aim was to further embed all the information that the kids had learnt in Year One, explore the next level of grammar and keep expanding vocabulary by introducing and discussing different topics. Children kept practising speaking and communication, reading and writing in Czech language this year and we also focused more on understanding written text.

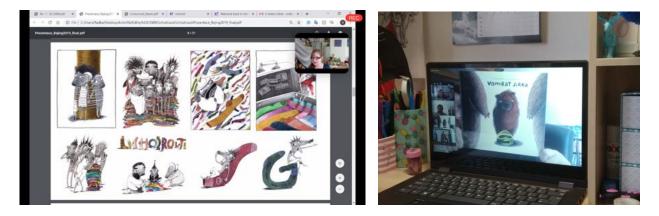
An important member of our team was the plush bumblebee Čmelda, a Czech fairy tale character; we learnt to sing several cheerful songs originating from this series. Čmelda spent each week with one of the children who then made a record in Čmelda's diary and also told the rest of the class about it. During the Saturday classes, kids learnt more Czech songs, games, enjoyed some "in-class competitions and physical or creative activities. We paid regular visits to the Czech School's library and just as in Year One, children had a chance to read on in short individual reading sessions led by volunteering parents, to whom we would like to say a huge thank you.

After the unexpected change, our classes turned to online teaching from 21st March, and although it was very different for all of us, we adapted our class activities to the computer or other screens and got used to it. Nevertheless, I am sure that children cannot wait to meet their classmates face to face in January again.

• Year 2 – Lípy

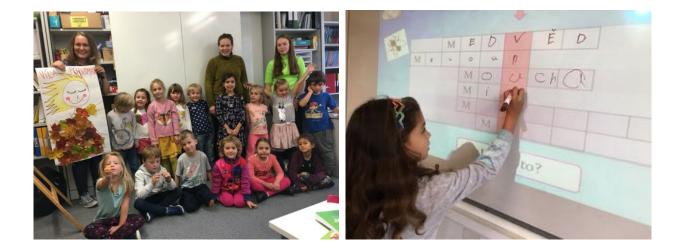
Jana Skulová, Vendula Holubová, Andrea Ballone and Natálka Carter

This was the third year in which the fairy Amálka, dog Škubánek a Káťa met with the children of year two. Like the two previous years, these story characters helped the children with improving their Czech. During our Saturday teaching, the children improved their grammatical ability and learnt about facts about the Czech Republic. Within our teaching we used various materials and activities to go through our syllabus, videos, songs, extracts from books, etc. The children worked independently as well as taking part in group activities. Our hours of 'prvouka' were from time to time, livened up by art activities. During our breaks we played Czech songs that the children could stretch and dance to. We kept on going to the school library where the children could choose out books to their own liking. The start of the fourth term









Radka Polenská, Alena Pilná and Isabella Kraft

The pupils started the school year with Czech speech. They learnt to recognise it in text and also to apply it actively. Furthermore, they revised the system of Czech consonants through various activities and games. In the second half of the year, we focused on the Czech listed words, their rules and use. The pupils created their own study materials covering this topic and we also used PowerPoint presentations and a set of worksheets which were used mainly for homeworks.

In the classes of national history, we discussed the Czech regions and their culture, history, natural heritage and places of interest. The pupils were always keen on sharing their experience, photos or souvenirs as they have already visited many places with their parents. During the last few weeks, the pupils deepened their knowledge of the neighbouring states of the Czech Republic.

• Year 4

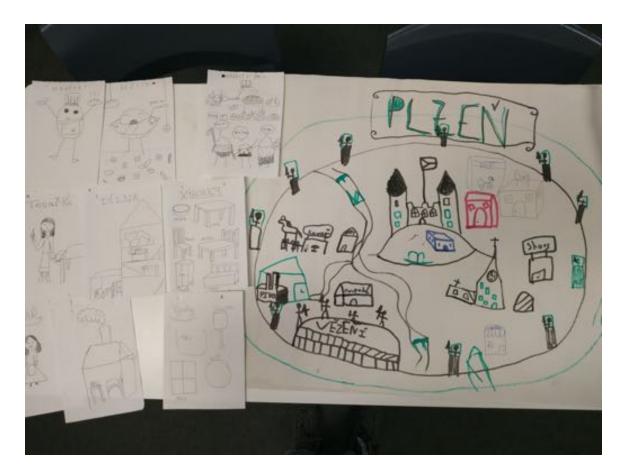
Jana Nejedlá Lukášová and Barbora Hrůzová

In Year 4 we began with understanding how words are formed and categorised, familiarised ourselves with declension and conjugation and practised it in both written and spoken communication using games, songs, quizzes and theatre practices. During the final term, we had a closer look at how to build sentences and connect them together. In history, we explored how people lived in our area during prehistoric times, read and re-played myths and legends connected to the founding of Prague, and learnt about the development of society throughout the rule of the Přemysl dynasty. The children made exploratory projects of gothic stories and fashion with amazing results. Moving to online teaching, we worked with texts and videos to a greater extent, discovering Karel's IV. reign and the context of the Hussite movement.

• Year 5

Soňa Šebestová and Linda North

This year we shared many great experiences and spent some amazing moments together. At the beginning of the school year we started in Academia. We practiced grammar through fun activities and games. Czech history was explored through performances and art activities. In the middle of March we switched to online lessons due to the COVID-19 lockdown. Our main topic was Maria Theresa and Joseph II. We enjoyed this time by using ZOOM, Kahoot, Learning apps, Socrative, E-třída, etc. After lessons we spent time together during teambuildings. Some students also participated in our online workshop Superheroes and Supervillains and attended "čtecí dílny" (reading workshops).







Štěpán Weinzettl and Matyáš Polenský

In Year 6, we gathered every Saturday under the guidance of Matyáš and I to learn more about Czech language and history. We are happy to see that we have managed to create a positive environment built on friendship and mutual trust. We devote a considerable amount of our time to educational games and interactive activities, and always put stress on hearing the children's voices, whether we are discussing František Palacký or the usage of i/y. We have strived to maintain this environment during our online lessons in the second part of the year, and we are proud to say that we have succeeded as far as it was possible. The coronavirus crisis was a challenge for all, notwithstanding, we finished this year with 13 pupils, the same number we started with last September. We have also received positive feedback from both the parents and the CSWB staff, and are eager to use our newly acquired skills in the future.

• Year 7

Ivona Klemensová and David Oršulik

In Year 7 we studied history between 1918 and 1946. We learnt about important historical personalities of the "First Czechoslovak Republic", about its tragic decline in the second half of 1930, the period of the Protectorate, and WWII. The Czechoslovak participation in the Battle of Britain in 1940 seemed especially relevant to us bilingual students with dual heritage. We had the chance to translate an interesting text about Captain Šeda, who unfortunately died during his first parachute training. For this work, all students were awarded a Certificate of Merit from the "Memorial Association for Free Czechoslovak Veterans".

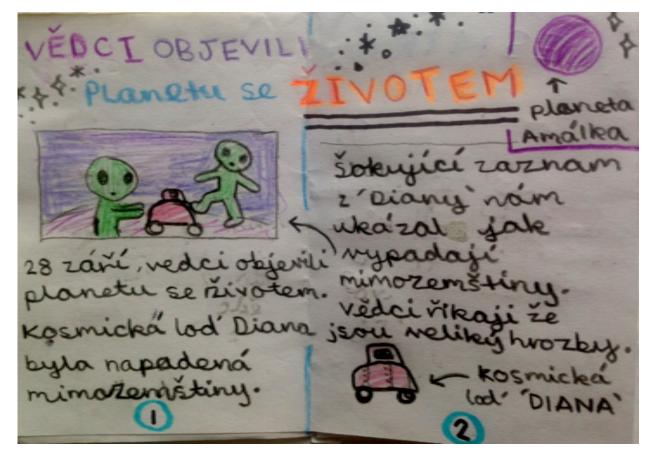
During the second half of the year, students took turns to prepare amazing presentations. We have learnt, for example, about the Amazonian rainforest, car manufacturing, fashion, photography, coronavirus, earthquakes, forest fires in Australia.

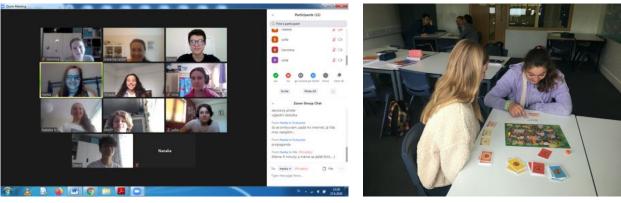
In Czech language lessons we learnt about word formation (using prefixes, suffixes, acquiring new words from foreign languages), adjectives, adverbs and much more. Our focus was on using language creatively and expressing our thoughts, opinions through discussion.

• Year 8

Katarina Lebar

Year eight is a great team of ten young and talented students. Starting the new school year in the autumn of 2019, we had no idea that this school year would be full of challenges caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the curriculum, our main task this year regarding the Czech language was to focus on more specific parts of grammar. That includes topics like declension of nonce and names of foreign origin, syntax and correct use of diacritics in sentences. Pupils were practising language during our communication hours in which we always immersed ourselves in interesting topics. Pupils were encouraged to express their opinion and understanding of these topics. Lessons of history were focused on the communist era in Czechoslovakia. Students were also involved in the celebration of the 20th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution organized by the school. The transition to online teaching during the spring of 2020 due to the pandemic was not easy but the year eights managed it very well so we finished this school year according to plan.









Adéla Herbsová and Filip Charvát

Throughout the whole year, year 9 worked hard towards the Czech Language Certificate Exam (CCE) level B2 which will take place in Autumn 2020; Learning from a new exercise book, created especially for this purpose. We focused on reading, listening, writing, speaking and grammar taking special care to go over some of the more complicated areas. We also revised some important moments in Czech history and discovered some more points of contact between Bohemia's and England's history.

In Spring, Year 9 adapted to a new way of learning via online platforms very well. They actively participated, presented their works about Czech history, hobbies and interests, prepared visual presentations, discussed various topics in groups and also played fun games like Kahoot, Quizlets etc.

Year 9 pupils also exchanged emails with their pen-pals in the Czech Republic and practised their Czech language. Year 9 helped their younger friends from the school, e.g. during St Nicholas Celebration when they supervised them. Year 9 was a group of very nice, smart and talented young people. We are a bit sad they already finished with their studies at CSWBL and hope to stay in touch with them. We wish them all the very best and good luck not only with the Czech language, but also in their future life.

• Harpenden

Kateřina Filipová and Soňa Šebestová

Nice group of children of various ages and very different levels of speaking and understanding Czech language gave us the opportunity to open exciting themes.

We learned about family, played a little play about Big turnip which was very popular. We talked about animals all over the world and enjoyed building houses like the three little pigs had in the story.

Unexpected online learning brought some challenges but children quickly adapted and enjoyed virtual trips to a lake, woods, village, town and castle. To finish the year we learned about the human body. Children made 3D lungs, brains and teeth. They shared interesting facts about blood. We watched the series Once upon a time-life. Children and assistants were absolutely amazing.







• The Library

Dagmar Kraft and Helena Rýparová

Reading volunteers - Jana Rýdlinková, Dagmar Orszulíková, Jan Vacarda Martina Victorio, Dagmar Hall and Jana Ketley

The Czech school library is able to grow alongside the school mainly thanks to its donations. It also probably holds the largest number of Czech books for children in London, which is no small feat considering it remains a travelling library. It is open on Saturdays during the Czech school's lessons, offering a range of books to suit both beginner and advanced readers. Younger classes visit the library regularly with their teachers, while older pupils come independently at break times. We also provide books for the parent volunteers, who support the children in individual reading sessions. Board books for the youngest children are now kept and loaned by the preschool teachers. While our library may be limited by the capacity of a few large suitcases it is a very much a thriving part of the Czech school in London.

• Singing Half hour

Dagmar Kraft, Isabella Kraft and Marie Vichrová

After a successful start to the musical club in CSWBL in 2018, we introduced a brand new singing half hour and couldn't believe our eyes at the number of singers that joined us - there were almost 25! The children learnt both traditional and modern Czech songs, managed canon singing, duets and singing with dancing. They performed for the first time in a workshop with the folk group Veltlinek from southern Moravia, where they shared their repertoire with the skilled musicians from Vetelinek and children from Okénko. In return, the musicians taught our children classical moravian folk singing with dancing, with an accompanying traditional band. The music club could not miss the St Nicolas celebration and sang traditional Czech carols as well as newer Czech Christmas songs.

And before we all had to start sitting at home, our *"žluťáskové"* dignifiedly represented the CSWBL at the Mother Tongue event, where they performed one of the best and most attractive performances.

• An afternoon with cimbalo music

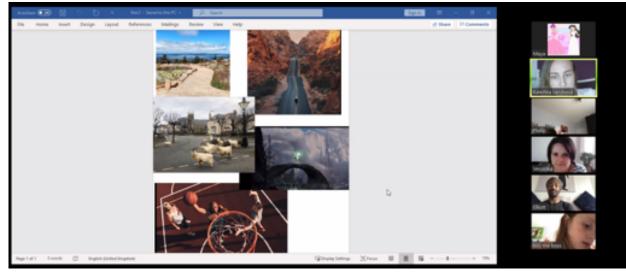
Singing Half hour team and Veronika Prokopová

It was an honor for us to be part of the music-folklore workshop on Monday 7th October. Three ensembles met at the Czech Embassy, each of whom shared a piece of their art and then showed their own production in all its beauty.

At the beginning the cimbalo band Veltlínek from Znojmo taught us their typical song and dance, then Music Club from CSWBL shared the song "Červená se line záře" and its English version "London's Burning" and all joined in singing Czech-English canon. At the end we all danced with the dance ensemble Kvítek from Okénko.

The reward for all performers and participants was a nice and tasty buffet. And how would such an event work if it was not accompanied with singing and tasting excellent wine from Moravia. We would like to thank all those who participated in this successful, pleasant and inspiring event.







Games with Czech

Dagmar Kraft and Isabella Kraft

The transition to online learning carried a number of issues for teachers and children alike, especially for our smallest students. We tried to captivate their attention and interest even when they were in front of a screen. Every week the second year children came followed by the third years into our Zoom classroom, to listen to stories about animals and later to answer some questions. We experimented with Czech letters, attempted unconventional riddles, formed new words, played musical bingo or drew according to Czech instructions. In the intensive 30 minutes, the children began to interpret Czech slightly differently and Izy and Dáša were very proud of how large of a step the children made in just 3 months and most importantly on how their relationship with the Czech language had changed, and how well they learnt to play with it.

• BOOK - COMIC – FILM

Radka Polenská

Radka Polenská successfully followed upon last school year's Book Workshops and together with three Czech artists prepared a series of 3 workshops focused on books, comic, and film.

Galina Miklínová introduced a full range of her works as a book illustrator and director of animated movies, including famous Lichožrouti (Oddsockeaters). Over the course of fifteen years of their literary existence, Lichožrouti were translated into 18 languages and became the heroes of a feature movie of the same name. She read the very first chapter of the 'Lichožrouti' book and later answered our questions.

The director of animated films, *Michal Žabka*, explained to the children how different the work on two feature films with the heroes of the legendary comic Čtyřlístek was. Michal also showed us a puppet, which he used to shoot a short spot for Czech Television about the important role of television during isolation. We are proud to have organized the very first 'international' screening of this piece.

Michal Žabka is currently directing a second series of short films about Anča and Pepík, about the lives of two mice siblings. The artist and author of the original comic, **Lucie Lomová**, was our next guest. Whilst drawing on her tablet, Lucie clarified how complex the creation of a comic is, how the comic is read and how to correctly adapt the frames and speech bubbles.

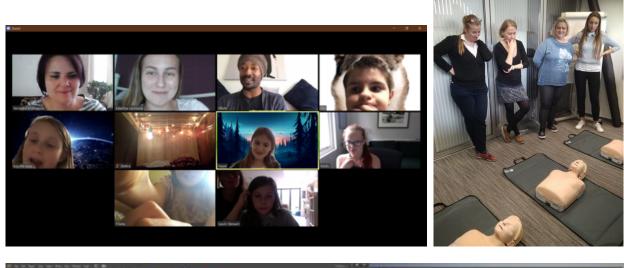
We really want to thank all three brave authors for charitable joining this coronavirus experiment.

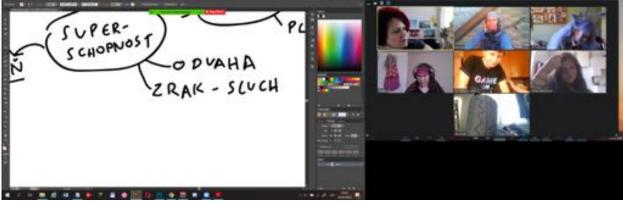
Storytelling

Elliott Ajai-Ajagbe Daley

After the Saturday classes, several teachers and interns met and tried how to do storytelling in a foreign language. Although met with a little delay, everyone came with a smile on their faces to the workshop organized by Elliott Ajai-Ajagbe Daley - versatile artist. We really enjoyed it. Not only did we have an opportunity to try some activities that we can use in teaching Czech, but also we had a lot of fun, for example with describing the reasons for traffic jams (whether it was due to gigantic ants or Godzilla). In the end, we had an opportunity to ask Elliott some questions

about storytelling, how to motivate children to storytelling, but also about the life of an artist. Thank you very much, Elliott!







• 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution

CSWBL team

It was Saturday - November 16th, 2019. It was obvious from the moment we arrived at school that this day would be special. The three colours of the tricolour on the children's and teachers' clothing strikingly prevailed and the Saturday program was slightly modified. This was because we commemorated the 30th anniversary of the Velvet Revolution in London too. We prepared a commemorative event, which was aimed to refresh and explain the recent history of the Czech Republic. The teachers showed recordings of the demonstrations to the children during the lessons.

Some pupils created banners that they brought with them to commemorate the day and a speeches were given by teachers Štěpán and Radka. There were many national flags of the Czech Republic, which were flyingamong the children. We sang the famous song "Náměšt" and we ended up with the national anthem "Kde domov můj". These songs were accompanied by the "Hudební půlhodinka". We are glad that we could share this moment together.

• In the footsteps of famous Czechoslovaks...

Štěpán Weinzettl and Hanka Červeňáková

we went with older children on Thursday 20th of February 2020. We started with the tour of the Czech embassy, where we learnt for example why local cinema was closed for several years. Then we work with the part of Letters from England by Karel Čapek. That text was an inspiration for our journey, which started on Baker Street (and we all agree with him, that it's basically a boring street), around Madame Tussauds Museum and back through Hyde park to former Czechoslovakian embassy on Grosvenor Place.

Because we got really wet during the rain, we stopped for a cup of hot tea and get back to the school, where we read other parts of Letters from England and we've tried to guess meaning of words like "studna", "barbarský" or "Talián".

• The Lucky Four - workshop

Veronika Prokopová and Interns CSWBL

The Lucky Four - Fifinka, Pinďa, Bobík and Myšpulín - live in a small house in the picturesque village of Třeskoprsky. One cosy night, sitting around a camp fire in their garden, they share stories of the best adventures they had last year: a successful climbing trip to the Devil's Thumb, tracking a mysterious werewolf, a trip to outer space full of rubbish and pirates, and delivering presents to the devil's children on St Nicholas's Day.

While faithful to the original style, mystical creatures, pirates and local villain Kamil Zádrhel together with Myšpulín's wonderful inventions refresh these four short stories with new thrills and frights suitable even for preschool children. Inspired by the most famous of Czech comics for children, this is a 50th anniversary present for the Lucky Four's many generations of fans. Followed by a children's art workshop.









Mother language international day

CSWBL team

On Monday 24th of February we visited an event organized on the occasion of Mother language international day at Islington Town Hall. We had an amazing opportunity to listen to Somali and Arabic songs, to watch Kurdish, Eritrean or Iranian dance performances or to listen to spanish conversation performance.

Czech school without borders represents itself with its choir, children sang 2 songs "Malé kotě" (song about little kitten, who is sleeping in the shoe) and Banana (song with dance about a person, who wants to stop living in the city and want to move to a jungle). Then Elliott Ajai-Ajagbe Daley presented workshop Fun Fairy Tales, which is currently underway at Tufnell Park Primary School.

The whole day was a pleasant meeting of the different cultures that met in Islington

• Fun Fairy Tales – Lockdown Tales

Lucie Wenigerová, Elliott Ajai-Ajagbe Daley, Veronika Prokopová and Kateřina Lerchová

Our project Fun Fairy Tales also found its online form step by step. All of us must cut off afterschool drama club in Tufnell Park Primary School and move to an online world. Regardless, children can't perform their authorial fairy tale in March, they still have continued with practising their roles and favourite drama games through the PC screen. From the start of the new half term, we have begun a new concept named Lockdown Tales with the goal to share our feeling and experiences of this new erratic time. Via exercising designed to create and share stories children work with questions: *How do you imagine life after lockdown? What is the best and the worst thing about this time?* Every child can make their own hero to their story according to their fantasy.

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