



Annual Report 2022/2023



*Registered charity number: **1151158***

*Company registration number: **7323697***

Czech School Without Borders, London/ Česká škola bez hranic, Londýn

Board of Trustees

Jana Ernoult, Chair

Lucie Wenigerová, Treasurer

Dagmar Kraft, Secretary

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Names of senior staff members

Zuzana Jungmanová, Co-Director/Director

Ivona Klemensová, Co-Director/left role on February 2023

Linda North, Assistant

Veronika Prokopová, Administrator

Mentors

Marie Vichrová, Year 1 - Year 5

Renata Clark, Year 6 – Year 9

Consultant Schoolgem

Jakub Pachansky

Speech Therapist

Jana Martykánová

Librarians

Helena Rýparová

Dagmar Kraft

Veronika Friedel

Ivana Tuhá

Graduates/ Volunteers

Max Tatara

Milada Trew

Lara Tuna

David Šedina

Charlotte Stewart

Violka Prokopová

Achievements and performance

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 this aim 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, or who live in Britain and are interested in helping at our school.

We have been lucky to find fantastic volunteers amongst our parents, who run our library, music club, help with reading with our children, and assist in many other ways. By coming forward all volunteers receive professional experience, which they can use to enhance their careers.

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 Saturdays for more than 186 students. The school provides an education from pre-school to Year 9 (the equivalent of Year 10 in the English education system). Traditionally, classes are conducted in-person at Tufnell Park Primary School in the London Borough of Islington. This school year, for years 6, 7, 8, and 9 there were lessons in person every other Saturday and lessons online in between.

There are additional online-only groups for years 3 and 4, which enable access to education to the more remote students, we have some students from Sweden for example.

Our school also provides Wednesday language workshop classes online for those who miss out on a lesson. These lessons focus on the expansion of vocabulary and communication skills. 10 students attend regular individual online classes, either following the same curriculum or focusing on vocabulary and communication skills.

The school library is open every Saturday, each class takes turns in visiting the library and borrowing Czech books. Our fantastic librarians provide advice and encourage students to borrow new books. They also organize a free book exchange three times a year for students and parents.

We are proud to have provided many other activities throughout our academic year 2022/23.

We motivate our students in many ways, taking part in local and international competitions. Our students took part in an international translation competition of English fiction to Czech language.

Our teachers also arranged cross borders friendships with students from the Czech Republic, writing and receiving letters in Czech and English language, and exchanging experiences from both countries. This school year 2022/23, Czech School Without

Borders, London, provided an after-school drama/art club at Tufnell Park Primary School for its British pupils as well as a cookery club.

We provide a robust and dynamic syllabus to our students. This is thanks to our excellent teachers and teaching assistants, brilliant parent/carer helpers and our dedicated management team. All the events detailed further down in this report, held over 2022/23, have helped us strengthen and maintain our parent/student relationships and continue to deliver our core objective: the teaching of the Czech language, culture and heritage to our local and internationally based families.

Plans for the future

The trustees of the school intend to continue the current strategy, with a focus on maintaining the quality of education while looking to improve the efficiency of the Charity. The trustees will also look to strengthen our relationships with our current grant providers to help ensure the financial position of the Charity.

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

Written by

Jana Ernoult, Chair

Czech School Without Borders, London



Pre-school Department

Pre-School Group A (Zuzana Jungmanová, Hana Musilová, Adéla Čížková and Denisa Fričová)

In the second half of our school year, we managed to separate our bravest students, who began attending our lessons without their parents and worked effectively throughout the lesson. Children in group A learned plenty; they improved their skills with scissors, glue, paying attention, and much more. Together, we explored different topics, fairy tales, stories, games, activities on an interactive board, and songs with musical instruments during our lessons. We are already looking forward to the upcoming school year, not only will we welcome new children in group A but also their siblings in the newly opening baby group.



Pre-School Group B (Hana Musilová, Adéla Čížková, Denisa Fričová and Zuzana Jungmanová)

Even this year, we were blessed with a large number of children who came to us from the younger group. They joined the children who started Czech school last year for the first time. The children that stayed with us from last year continued with us and helped the new children become a part of the collective and acclimatise to our beautiful Czech community. We spent the entire year focused on topics that link with our everyday lives.

Lessons were led by very professional and creative teachers who shared one goal: to help children create a relationship with the Czech language through games, favourite topics, famous Czech fairy tales, art activities, and more. Our very successful goal was to show children that books and reading can also be fun and that it is a journey to knowledge. We actively went to the library, where children could borrow books from a wide selection of books. During their visit, children could sit down with teachers and explore stories that would interest them, and later they could read them with their parents. Our goal was for children to get to know a number of Czech traditions and also to get better at the Czech language. We successfully concluded the year in both groups, and our little students from group B moved on to the next phase, year 0, where they will start in September 2023. We are already excited about the new group of preschool children, and we can't wait for the adventures that are coming.



Reception – Year 0 (Aneta Kelsall Linc, Vlad'ka Vršanská)

We have had lots of fun every Saturday since September and it was wonderful to see the children develop new friendships. The children deepened their knowledge of the Czech alphabet. Explaining the basics of the Czech language was particularly important and tricky but the children learned quickly. In our activities, we focused on listening and understanding. Children had to not only listen to instructions but also evaluate the meaning of the received information. Everyone loved the art activities and games that were used to deepen their vocabulary and understanding. The aim of Year 0 is to make children fall in love with the Czech culture, language and country. We try and do our best to encourage them to be in touch with the Czech language as much as we can. We hope they have enjoyed their time with us because we really enjoyed our time with them and are really proud of every single one of them!



School Department

Year 1 (Veronika Prokopová, Štěpánka Bulířová)

More than twenty children stretched the desks in the first class in September. All the children were very happy to see each other again after the holidays and we also welcomed newcomers.

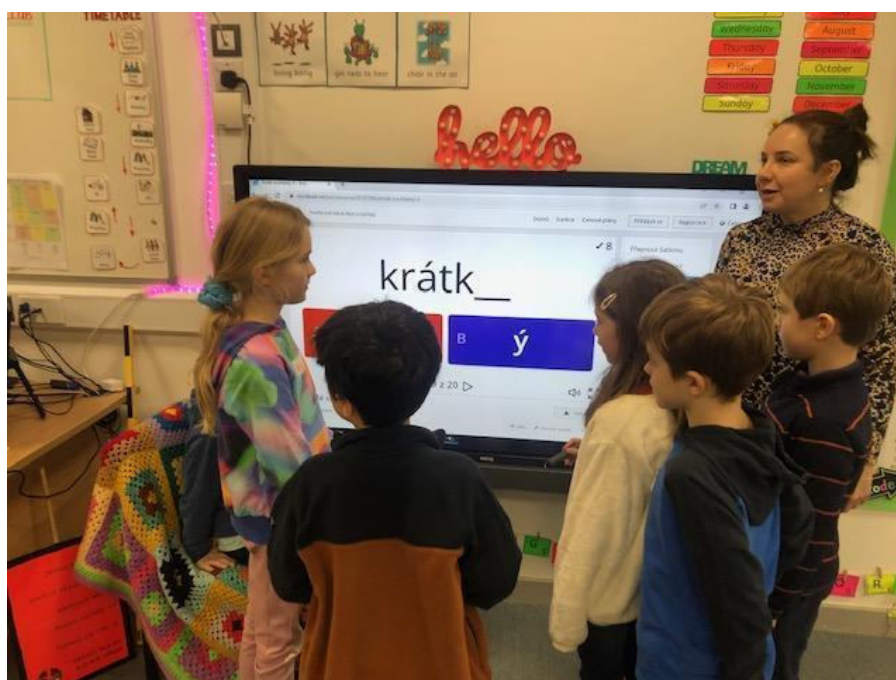
The first grade is a big change for children because they begin to experience the intricacies of Czech grammar. The biggest struggles are caused by hooks and commas. During the year we tried Czech handwriting, which the children liked. Thanks to our reading path, which motivated pupils to read in Czech at home, and also thanks to our volunteers, who read individually with the children every Saturday, pupils significantly improved their reading in Czech and enriched their vocabulary. We regularly visited the school library so that there was always something to read from, and as a class, we also participated in a great competition for the Golden Child, which is organized by the organizers of the Golden Ribbon book competition. Thanks to this competition, one discovers new books for children and youth. We enjoyed the book Coat and Handbag.

In addition to reading and writing, we also enjoyed a lot of dancing in the classroom, jogging outside and in the sports hall, and a lot of games on the interactive whiteboard in the classroom. Especially the competition quiz was fun for the students. This year, in addition, there was cooking with Mrs Linda, a teacher called Nice Czech at the stove, so in addition to great cooking and baking, we also practised the Czech language in a playful way. Throughout the year, the first-graders were again accompanied by mascots Dreamer the Pig and Ocelot Olík, who travelled home with the children and they then wrote in the journal what Dreamer and Olík did during the week.



Year 2 (Jana Skulová, Kateřina Vlčková)

Even this year, our pupils had the opportunity to meet three fairy-tale characters - Káťa, Škubánek and the fairy Amálka – who helped them learn Czech. In the lessons, we have been learning grammar as well as facts about the Czech Republic. A variety of learning resources have been used to make learning for children interesting and interactive. The activities ranged from presentations, interactive games, movement exercises, art classes, Czech songs and fairy tales. We have also regularly visited the school library to promote children's reading skills at home as well as at school, all with the help of our volunteer readers. Part of our reading and writing efforts were class literary competitions announced several times a year. I would like to thank Katerina, Lara and Jana for all their work and energy they have devoted to the children.



Year 3 (Eliška Šperková, Matyáš Polenský)

Throughout year 3, the children gained a wide range of knowledge through both games and teaching. Each class began with an exciting conversation where the children had the opportunity to share their experiences and adventures from the past week.

This practice not only created a sense of belonging and socialisation amongst their bilingual peers but most importantly it enhanced their level of expression and perception of the Czech language. To further develop their speech and writing skills, children were encouraged to write essays and present them to the rest of the class.

Another essential part of our lessons was reading. Throughout the year we read the book '*Děti z Bullerbynu*', which served as a tool for developing the children's reading and listening skills as well as expanding their vocabulary. With the aim of retaining the freshly acquired knowledge, reading was always followed by the children writing down new words and creating their own little dictionary.

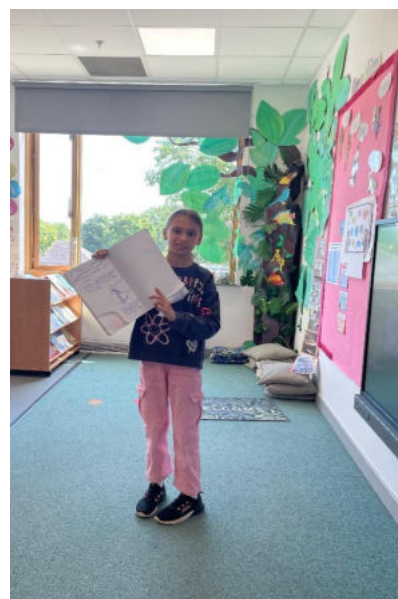
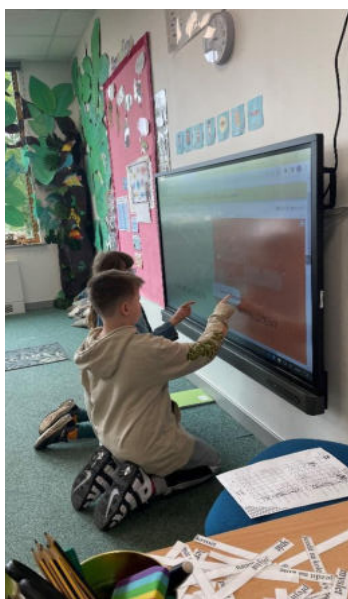
In geography, our students extensively explored the land of the Czech Republic. Specifically, regions, history, landmarks, culture, and neighbouring states. Geography was taught through presentations, games, worksheets, or group creative activities to cater to different learning styles.



Year 4 (Linda North)

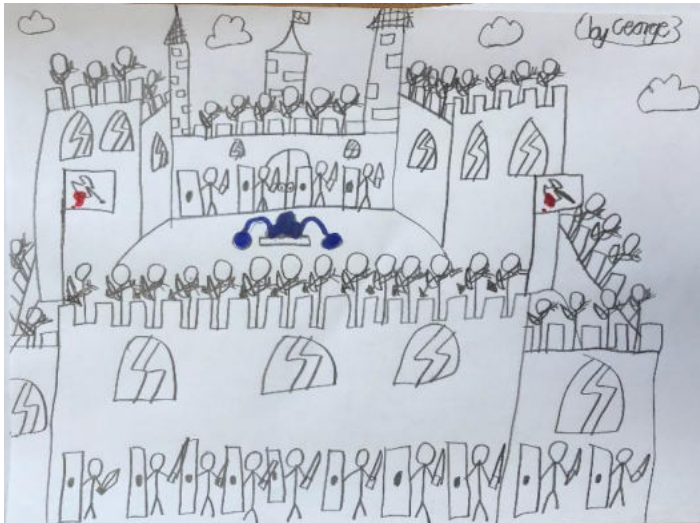
The fourth grade began the school year by repeating the listed words (*vyjmenovaná slova*) and parts of speech and gradually learned to conjugate nouns and tense verbs. Each term was also made more enjoyable with different stories. In the first term, The kids took us on a trip to the Czech Republic, visiting everyone's hometown. In the second

term, they travelled back in time, telling stories of famous events and people from history and they planned a trip to help us understand everything better. In the third term, the children wrote down their favourite recipes and prepared some of them in the school kitchen. In the final term, they introduced us to their most popular ruler from Czech history and they drew each one beautifully for us. All year they read so well, with our reading assistant Věra, played theatre, and cooked lots of tasty food. As they became more skilled in the kitchen, they also had the opportunity to share their culinary skills with children in the lower grades. They created a beautiful project for the reading competition, developed their vocabulary and played a lot of games. The fourth grade formed a great team which helped to deliver a fun and very successful year.



Year 5 (Ivona Klemensová, Michaela Sidorová and Tomáš Homola)

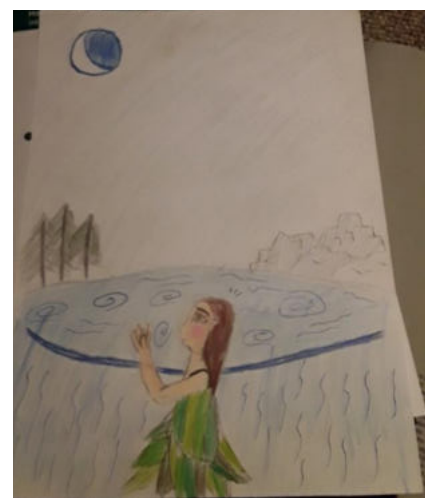
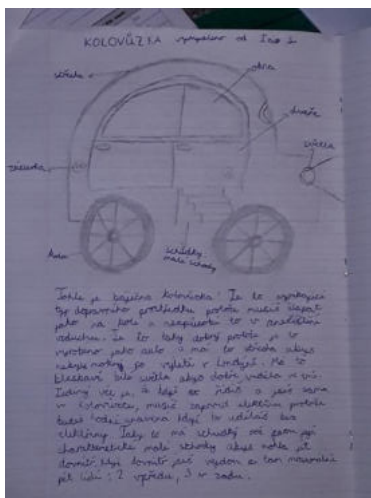
Students from 5th grade learned about adjectives and pronouns and their declension. They found out about Czech medieval and modern history, starting from the Hussites to Jagellonian and Habsburg dynasties, finishing with the period of Enlightenment and Marie Teresia and Josef II. In the first term, they read 2 books, *Labutí dům* and *Safíroví ledňáčci a Glutaman*. In the 2nd and 3rd terms, they continued with individual reading. They welcomed an online guest Monika Frečerová from the museum in Znojmo who told us about old Romanesque buildings in their town. 5th graders used their knowledge to invent and create their own unique baroque costumes and portraits, renaissance town squares, fascinating medieval castles, and engaging chronicles or porters to promote carp farming. In the 3rd term, they applied their knowledge to small pieces of creative writing. On several occasions, they cooked delicious meals with Linda.



Year 6 (face-to-face – Soňa Šebestová, David Oršulík, online - Kateřina Osuchová and Monika Mittermeier)

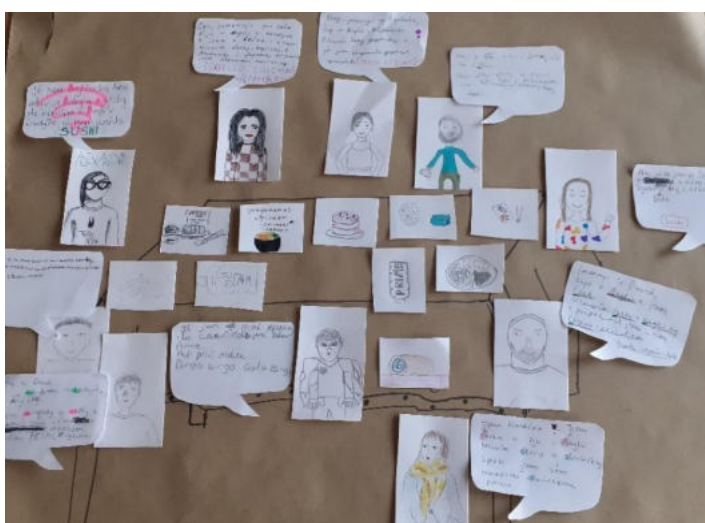
Throughout the school year, the sixth grade worked on two platforms - face-to-face and online. In the Czech language, our goal was the sound side of the language or word formation. We dealt with the declension of adjectives, pronouns, or numerals. At the end of the school year, we were also interested in syntax - we repeated the subject and predicate and newly have learned about the object in the sentence.

In our History lessons, we focused on the period between the National Revival and the First World War. The First World War was a topic where students could use their knowledge from the English school. We played a lot of games such as AZ-kvíz, Riskuj! or Kahoot! We also used various platforms (Wordwall, Learning Apps, and others). We participated in many projects, for example at "Hezky česky u sporáku". Students also had a chance to write letters to the Czech Republic.



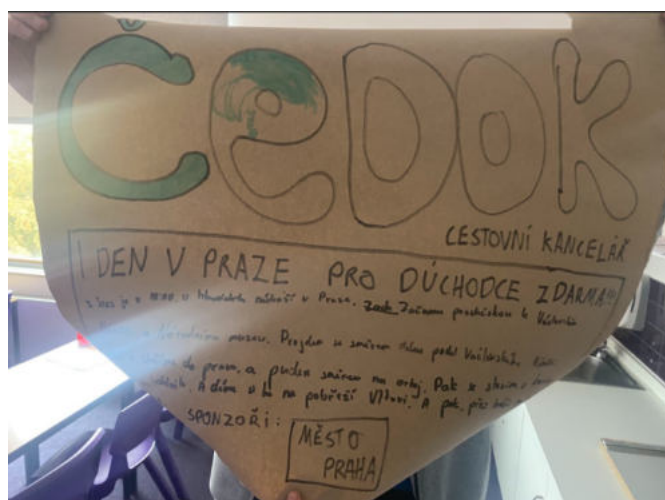
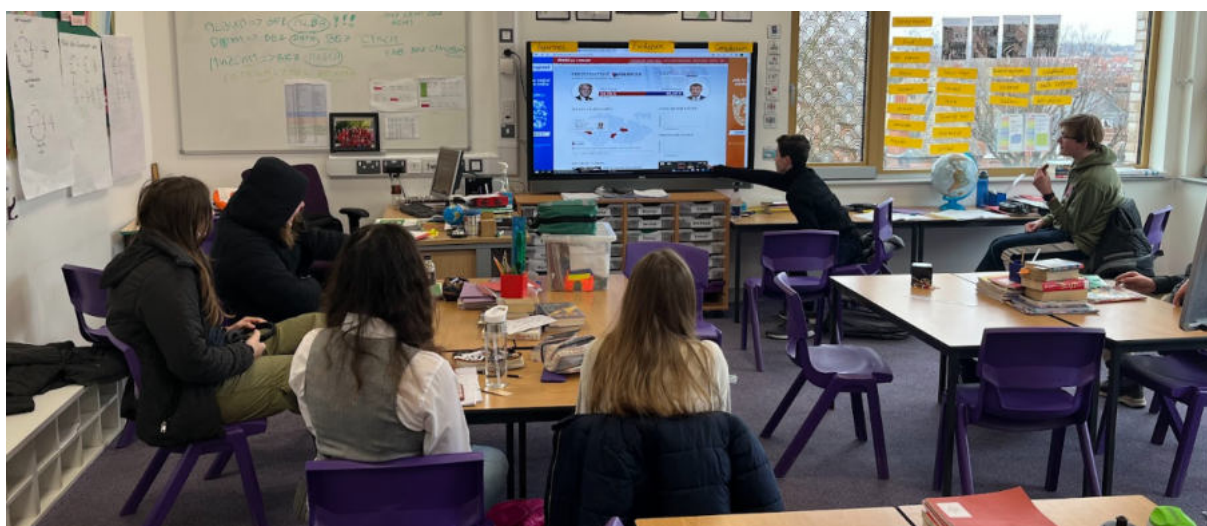
Year 7 (face-to-face – Katarina Lebar, David Oršulík, online – Kateřina Osuchová a Monika Mittermeier)

This year The seventh grade was a team of 12 talented and energetic students. They worked diligently throughout the year to improve their Czech language and learn about Czech history in the first half of the 20th century. In Czech language classes, they were working on expanding their vocabulary, with a particular focus on different meanings of words and the ways different parts of speech are formed. Towards the end of the school year, they learned about the constituent structure of sentences and practised their identification of them. During the year, the pupils regularly practised writing in Czech, they got to know and tried out various stylistic formations and spread their vocabulary through reading at home. Pupils showed great interest in getting to know events from Czech history. While the girls were most interested in the fashion and culture of the 30s, the boys enthusiastically studied the events of the Second World War, in which the topic of the participation of Czech pilots in the Battle of Britain was highlighted. All Seventh graders added a lot of hours of homework to their schoolwork and they finished this school year according to plan and with great results.



Year 8 (face-to-face – Soňa Šebestová and Filip Charvát, online – Hana Červeňáková, Barbora Miklasová)

Eighth grade was for all of the students a turning point. There is a greater emphasis (than ever before) on Czech communication, writing, and understanding text and audio. At the end of the school year, successful students can take the B1 exam. All students were working very hard and at the end of June, two of them took the B1 exam. In the 1st part of the school year, we kept studying Czech history from the beginning of communism to the creation of the independent Czech Republic. In the second part of the school year, students did their own presentations on the selected topic such as Karel IV, Jan Hus, or Marie Terezie. In grammar, the greatest interest was placed on correct prepositions, conjunctions, and writing commas in simple and compound sentences. During the lessons, we used various platforms such as Wordwall, Learning Apps, Kahoot, Mentimeter, and others. Together with the seventh grade, we participated in the project of the "Zlatá stuha" and we created comics on the topic of "Odsunuté děti".



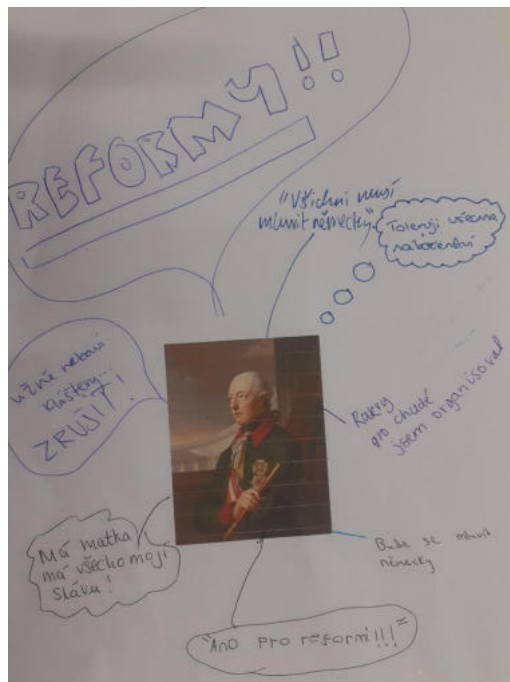
Year 9 (face-to-face – Katarina Lebar and Filip Charvát, online – Hana Červeňáková)

The ninth grade was a team of 9 curious and motivated students who successfully completed their education at the Czech School this year. The focus of their work throughout the year was on improving their knowledge of the Czech language, with the possibility of concluding the year with a voluntary certified exam at level B1 or B2.

During the year, they devoted themselves to more demanding texts and listening activities in Czech. The students had the opportunity to independently present various topics in front of the class, express their opinion on them and thus practise their spoken Czech. During the year, they also wrote several longer and more complex texts, during which they were practising various stylistic formations, as well as Czech grammar.

Ninth grade also returned and repeated knowledge about various events of the Czech past with an emphasis on moments where Czech and English history meet. They enjoyed various competitive games with historical topics and other activities where they could compete for knowledge.

Throughout the school year, students took an active part in correspondence with pupils from school in the Czech Republic and participated in the great workshop on the topic of Czech pilots in the Battle of Britain. They concluded their attendance at the Czech school with a ceremony at the Czech Embassy.



Czech Through Play (Kateřina Filipová and Soňa Šebestová)

This school year we explored six very different topics: 1. Rescue teams and how to stay safe. 2. In the land of flora with Faun. 3. Inventors and their inventions. 4. Czech Republic. 5. With Grandpa Eduard to ancient Greek myth and legends. 6. Reporters.

During our online lessons, we talked not only about the term's theme but also about the personal interests of the students. We played games, both via online apps and physical games. For example, Kuba řekl (Simon says), muzikální sochy (musical statues) and much more. We used various platforms - Worldwall, Learning apps, but probably the most popular with the children was to play Kahoot or draw and write on Whiteboard in ZOOM.

The children have shown interest and developed their knowledge of a range of different topics as well as improving their confidence to speak Czech and deepen their vocabulary.



Year's Activities

All-year activity, Drama enrichment program in TFP, Veronika Prokopová and Elliott Ajai-Ajagbe Daley

On Fridays, children from Tufnell Park Primary School had the opportunity to try something new, something special as a part of the enrichment program. We were more than happy to be part of that program. We delivered cooking sessions and drama lessons. The drama class reflected the primary school curriculum and worked closely with the class teachers to enrich the education. First half-term we focused on the topic of light. We had a great discussion about a world without light or with too much light. Children made beautiful shadow puppets and then performed.

In the second half-term, our topic was the river Nile, we created a performance for other classes which was about Santa being on a holiday in Egypt and clashing with the ancient Gods. Pupils made lovely headbands which represented their characters. In the third half-term, we used the topic "Sound" and our performance was called The Sound of the Jungle. Children made face masks of animals and also performed a great jungle dance. Volcanoes and earthquakes were topics for the fourth half-term and we reconstructed the events of Vesuvius eruptions and the disaster of Pompei. We made costumes and props and the children performed on stage in the big sports hall.

Our last topic for the Summer term was "All Around the World". In the fifth half-term, we imagined how aliens would react to different food around the World. In the last half-term, we focused on the animals around the World and their thoughts. Children created sock puppets and scenarios and they wrote poems. With every topic, we created scripts and amazing characters. We worked with children from year 3 up to year 5. We aimed to build confidence and develop literacy and drama skills through devising workshops, script writing/character, and world-building. We had very positive feedback from all our students.



All year activity, Hezky česky u sporáku (Cooking Class in Czech School) Linda North

At the beginning of October, the Czech School in London started cooking lessons for their pupils. Children had the opportunity to try not only a number of dishes and the actual work in the kitchen but also get acquainted with healthy nutrition and get a lot of beneficial advice for their healthy lifestyle. During these lessons, the students worked in groups and prepared recipes together according to the teacher's instructions. In the end, everyone greatly enjoyed their fantastic dishes.

Everything took place under the supervision of the amazing teacher Linda North who excellently led these lessons and prepared a lot of delicious recipes for the students. A big thank you is also due to Make In Hackney's for their help and delivery of all raw materials without whose cooperation this activity would not have been possible. Last but not least to all parents for their support and help. All pupils and teachers enjoyed the lessons to the fullest and we are looking forward to other great meals that we will prepare together.



All year activity, Citrónky (School Choir), Dáša Kraft, Sabrina Ashoor, Alena Kozáková, Veronika Prokopová, Viola Prokopová

Every Saturday before the "serious" school started, more than a dozen of singing enthusiasts regularly met and sang together in the choir Citronky. The Citronky group is composed of children from reception to year 7 eager to enjoy a different piece of Czech culture together. They explored Czech modern as well as folk music, embracing harmonies, canons and the use of simple musical instruments like sticks, handbells and even kazoos.

All this delighted the audience when the wonderful Citronky presented at Mikulas event, Easter celebration as well as the summer party.



24th – 26th October 2022, 3 full-day creative-exploratory workshops - Treasures of London

During the autumn holidays, the Czech School Without Borders in London prepared a series of three creative-exploratory workshops called Treasures of London. During the autumn holidays, the children had the opportunity to get to know the diversity of art, architecture and many mysterious and interesting places that London has to offer.

On the first day, we started a tour of the Southbank. We took the opportunity to admire the Southbank Centre, the National Theatre and Tate Modern. The children tried out a wide range of art techniques, such as rubbing, one-strokes, and dotting, and learned to paint perspective pictures. Thanks to this, a number of original and wonderful works were created.

The next day, the art group set out to discover hidden art spots around Liverpool Street and Brick Lane. We also visited the Whitechapel Gallery. For this day the teachers prepared remarkable art and sports activities, which enchanted the children just like the

previous day. This time we focused more on graffiti and street artists. In the Whitechapel Gallery, they then created houses that hid fantasy worlds by combining collage and painting.

We started the last sunny workshop day at St. Paul's Cathedral, and walked along the Millennium Bridge, from where we could observe famous London buildings. Inspired by the many London bridges, and the children created their own bridges. At the Barbican Centre, we focused on skyscrapers and ended our three-day event with a visit to the Museum of London, where the children attempted mosaic-making. Everyone really enjoyed the event and took away not only a lot of experiences but also beautiful portfolios that they can be proud of.



13th November 2022, The Websters

On 13th November the Czech School together with the Czech Centre in London and the Czech and Slovak school Okenko participated in the screening of the animated film *Websters in Film*. The event took place at the Czech Embassy in London as part of the 26th Made in Prague festival.

A humorous spider story intertwined with an unexpected adventure which in a family deals with children's joys and sorrows. After the screening, an art workshop was prepared where they could make their own web or an invitation to a spider party with the help of their parents and CSWBL staff. The children not only enjoyed the film but also took away excellent products inspired by the movie.

Autumn 2022, the first Czech school calendar

In Autumn we decided to create a calendar with pictures from our classes and school events in order to bring the series of activities closer to parents and our partners. Thanks to a parent, we were able to print the calendars for free, and therefore we decided to use the calendar as a "fundraiser" where we raised a beautiful £217. All of the money we raised will go to financing other activities supporting reading and learning.



Jeden za všechny, všichni za jednoho

3rd December 2022, St. Nicolas celebration

This year, St. Nicolas visited the children in the classrooms on Saturday on December 3rd. Of course, he came with smiling angels and spooky devils. The pupils greeted them nicely and sang Christmas carols, therefore the devil didn't take anyone away. As a reward, the children received a reward, in which they could find Pardubický gingerbread, Pedro chewing gum, but also a potato, which is supposed to remind the children to be kind throughout the year.

During the day, the children could enjoy their creations they made in the prepared workshops. They had a choice of Christmas decorations, for example, a Christmas tree made of pinecones, a star made of coloured wires or an angel made of muffin liners. The biggest attraction was decorating gingerbread cookies, which were baked for us by both mothers and schoolchildren from Tufnell Park Primary School. They were made gluten-free so that everyone could really enjoy them. A pleasant end to the day was the Christmas concert, where not only the children who are part of Citrónky, the school choir but also the teachers sang for us. Traditional Czech carols and songs from classic Czech fairy tales. The entire audience was able to join in the singing, creating a beautiful Christmas atmosphere.



11th February 2023, Mardi Gras celebration

On the last Saturday of the half-term, 11th February, we celebrated Mardi Gras with the children. The morning was peaceful, the students learned about the history of the carnival and looked at photos of richly decorated costumes. Which they used as an inspiration to make their own masks.

By the afternoon, music was already playing in the great hall. A disco was arranged for the whole school and, of course, there was a dance competition between classes. Preschoolers, first graders, and fourth graders had a narrow lead and during the last song, the decision was made as the fourth grade had the most impressive moves.

The fourth graders also shone when preparing a small snack for their classmates. They took preschoolers under their wing in the kitchen and baked delicious cookies with them, the famous Czech "esíčka" and chocolate coconuts. At the end of the day, there was a carnival parade, where we saw a wide range of beautiful masks and costumes.



13th February 2023, 'Believe or don't believe' - Natural History Museum

During the half-term holidays, on the 13th of February, the Czech School without Borders London prepared a day-long workshop for its younger students called, 'believe or don't believe' at the Natural History Museum. The first stop was the "Our Planet" section, where students could see the different conditions on the planet and explore the incredible inventions of nature. After everyone continued for dinosaur excursion, which aroused the greatest response among the students. Together they also had the opportunity to see various mammals and plants and then discussed everything in detail with each other and with the teachers.

After acquiring new information, everyone enthusiastically undertook the creation of their own art portfolio. Both different landscapes and the animals that live there were created, and everyone also created their own dinosaur headband as a keepsake. All the creations were really excellent and they took away not only a lot of experiences but also beautiful portfolios that they can brag about.



13th February 2023, "Once upon a time there was a life 2 – older" Natural History Museum

The Czech School without Borders has prepared a seminar for selected pupils at the National Science Museum. The wonderful Lenka Neal, who works at the museum, took care of the group of older children. The program began with the students getting to know the museum. Subsequently, the students in groups determined the mysterious biological object they received and could examine it under a magnifying glass or microscope. These objects included the vertebra of a dolphin, the egg shells of a shark and a stingray, or the ear bone of a whale.

The morning block ended with an interesting lecture about the seabed and an expedition led by a team from the museum. The students also had a short introduction about evolution from our intern Petra K. After that, the whole group went to the basement of the museum, where the biggest treasures were waiting for them. Up to 12 metres long preserved *squid* or the original preserved collection of Charles Darwin. During the whole time, the pupils had the task of filling in the Little Researcher's Diary.

After lunch, the group's footsteps headed to the laboratory, where the goal was to find and observe the tiny organisms obtained by passing the mud through a sieve. The students really enjoyed this activity. At the very end, the pupils painted polyester cups or

played a "treasure hunt" game, where they looked for answers to questions in various places around the museum. The students still have to wait for the decorated cups to take home, as they will go on an expedition to the sea with the team from the museum. The cups will be immersed to a great depth and will shrink to a third of their original size due to the pressure. We are already looking forward to the next scientific seminar.



15th March 2023, Mother tongue international day

On Wednesday 15/03/2023, a mother tongue celebration took place in Islington Assembly Hall. This celebration was intended to highlight the importance and preservation of the mother tongue. To support not only children but also parents and teachers who have the determination to devote themselves to their mother tongue and thus support the diversity of different cultures. Right at the beginning, the selected children were presented with diplomas for excellent work, especially for their endurance and development in their mother tongue.

The Mayor of Islington was also present. Subsequently, a varied program began. We could see, for example, a presentation about Arab culture, traditional dances from Ethiopia and Somalia, or a performance by a children's choir from Turkey. There was also a display of traditional clothing. The audience was joined in the rhythm by a drum performance, but also by female Somali dances. The Czech School without Borders in London also had the opportunity to present its operations and share its enthusiasm and experience. The whole program was accompanied by a great and pleasant atmosphere and ended with a traditional dish prepared by local women.

16th March 2023, British Museum workshop

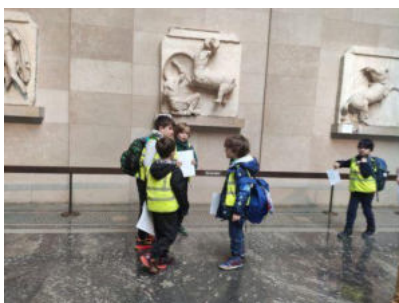
On Thursday, 16th March, the Czech School Without Borders prepared a seminar for its pupils at the British Museum. The group was led by teacher Eliška together with teacher

Matyáš. Before we started our journey, we introduced the children to how many continents there are in the world and what they are called. The pupils were given a map of the world, so they could write the name of the continents and then colour them according to the lowlands and highlands.

Our first journey led to the African section. Here we saw different coloured textiles, painted masks and also the Tree of Life. In order to try working with textiles themselves, the children made their own bracelets at the end of our African exploration, in the colours of the Czech flag. After lunch in a nearby park, we returned to Africa for a while, but this time to prehistoric Egypt. Before we started our exploration, the pupils made beautiful pyramids. Then we went to explore the Egyptian part. Here the pupils were most interested in the mummies and the mummification process.

During the afternoon session, we moved back to Europe, specifically to ancient Greece. Pupils were given worksheets, where they placed Greece on a map and learnt about Greek mythology. They were given clues and tried to guess which god we were talking about. The pupils then took us to the Greek part of the museum, where we explored Athenian sculpture and architecture. We finished the day on the top floor of the British Museum where pupils viewed Athenian pottery depicting Greek mythology. They then had the opportunity to paint and decorate such a vase themselves according to their own taste.

We are already looking forward to the next museum trip.



25th March 2023, a workshop about pilots, VOŠ Akademie Michael Prague

As an organization, CSWB always aims to broaden the horizons of its students to help them gain a wider understanding of Czech culture and history. On the 25th of March, three students from Academy Michal, the University of Creative Communication in Prague, visited the school to lead a creative workshop focused on the vital role that Czechoslovak pilots played in the RAF during World War Two. Two of the students presented a short film about the life of the Czech pilot Josef František, whilst the other student described her creative process behind a landing page detailing the history of

Czechoslovaks in the RAF. Both presentations were received with great enthusiasm and interest by the children. The children then took part in the creative process by drawing their own landing page and film scenes, further piquing their interest. This was thoroughly appreciated by the Czech ambassador Marie Chatardová, who was also in attendance.



31st March 2023, Night with Andersen

On Friday, March 31, the Czech School without Borders went on a nighttime adventure expedition in the footsteps of Odysseus. Before heading out to sea, we got in touch with Czech Radio Junior and had the opportunity to send greetings to the Czech Republic and to share where we are and what awaits us. Later, the kids were given a chance to ask some questions themselves. Our inquisitive children did not spare the presenters and asked as many questions as they could.

Throughout the evening's mysterious journey, we were guided by Telemachos, who showed the pupils where Odysseus had travelled, the traps he had faced, and the people he had met. He introduced us to the witch Kirke, the giant Cyclops, and King Ailus. To go on such a journey, children had to first assemble a flotilla, create Greek mosaics to decorate it, and finally correctly assemble memory cards of the Greek gods. All the tasks were successfully completed, so it was time for a little refreshment. After energy replenishment, we headed on a mysterious trail full of unexpected pitfalls and twists. The pupils had to bravely pass the three-headed dog Cerberus, which was waiting for them with various riddles and cyphers. After passing Charon and all the tests, the god of the underworld himself, Hades, challenged them with various tricky tasks.

After successfully completing the adventurous journey, crossword puzzles and colouring were awaiting the kids. The children had the opportunity to recall what they had learned.

At the end of the day, we all squeezed into our sleeping bags and were ready for a night at school.

The next day, after breakfast, the students received their diplomas and a present from King Ailos. It was then time to return to our desks and get ready for Saturday's lesson. We are already looking forward to the next night's adventure.



1st April 2023, Spring fun - Easter

On the 1st of April, we celebrated the upcoming Easter. In the morning, the students were studying, but in the afternoon, they took part in the programme prepared in the sports hall, which was beautifully decorated by the preschool teacher Hanka. Easter is supposed to be a cheerful celebration, so we all said goodbye before the holidays with cheerful songs sung by the school choir Citrónky, which was divided into older and younger children. The older singers delighted the parents with the classic songs Nonstop and Jóžin z bážin, the little ones sang The Smart Man and the Stupid Man and Jede jede poštovský panáček and then handed out Easter cards to the parents as little postmen.



21st May 2023, Czechoslovaks Sports Olympics

On Sunday, May 21, the 2nd Czechoslovak Sports Olympics took place. The younger and older athletes fought with all their strength until the last moment and all earned amazing gingerbread medals. We jumped long and high, we even jumped like frogs and ran slalom, sprint and relay. Cans and accuracy were also thrown. After lunch, the adults also fought with each other, who fought as bravely as their children. The Czech atmosphere was complemented by traditional Czech snacks, including rolls, brought by the sponsoring Czech shop. It was great to meet Czech and Slovak friends from other schools again. Thanks to the good weather, we enjoyed the day very much and we are looking forward to the third year again next year.



30th May - 2. June 2023, Spring camp - From the great-grandfather of the Czech to the Golem

During the holidays, which are in England at the turn of May and June, we traditionally organise a spring camp. This time it took place in the wonderful surroundings of The Mill Residential Centre in Surrey from May 30th to June 2nd. The topic was Czech fables and legends, as the title "From the Great-grandfather of the Czech to the Golem" suggests.

On the very first day after our arrival, we managed to make bread according to the secret family recipe of the Czech great-grandfather, and before it rose, we went on a boar hunt with Bivoj. Like our ancestors, we also tackled obstacles, in the rope centre, in

search of a land rich in milk and curds. The next day was marked by the heroic Bruncvík, thanks to whom the Czech Republic has a lion in its coat of arms. The children invented their own emblems and weapons as members of Bruncvík's troupe. We also made original camp t-shirts using the bleaching technique and set out to conquer Říp, aka the local hill. Although we didn't win a lion for our merits, we were treated to a wonderful schnitzel with mashed potatoes and a chocolate bun.

On the last day before departure, we became alchemists at the court of Rudolph II., and we made the philosopher's stone, potions, and the famous Golem.

It was a fantastic four days full of sun and joy, bonfires, and singing. The children liked the path of courage the most, which they heroically managed on the last evening. The children took away wonderful experiences and everyone is really looking forward to the next camping trip.



Golden ribbon - Golden Child 2023

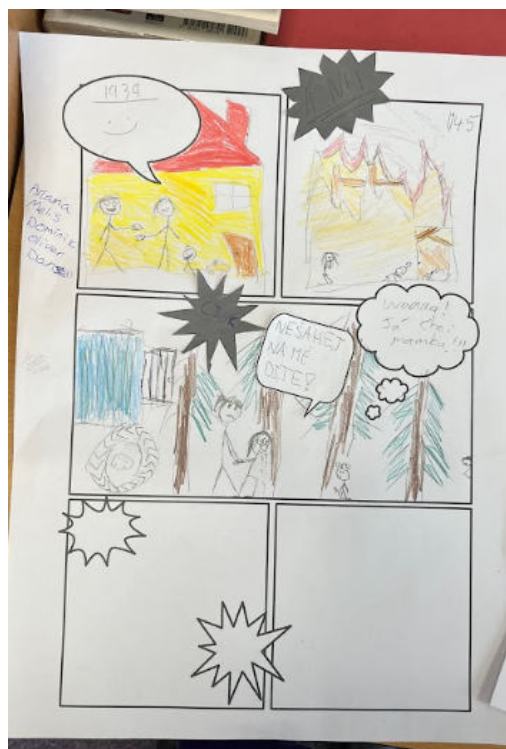
Bilingual children from Czech School meet regularly every Saturday to deepen their knowledge of Czech as a language and Culture as well. Preschoolers, which in Czech school are children from ages 4-5 years, chose František from the compost from the Labyrinth Publishing House. "The story of Frantisek of the compost fascinated us in many ways. Thanks to the worm man, we got into nature, met his insect friends and shared some interesting facts about gardens and orchards then we underwent several creative activities alongside Frantisek and ended up in the kitchen, where we made him and the

compost out of dough and crushed biscuits. The children were so thrilled. In the second part of the event in the summer term, we will spend time looking at worms in nature."

"From January, we in the first grade read passages from the magical book 'Coat and Handbag' (Argo Publishing). In anticipation, we watched their adventure and beautiful friendship. We created and decorated our own coats and a handbag and wrote down everything, which belongs in a handbag. In the end, one handbag alone contained 17 phones, 2 televisions, many pieces of bread and chocolate, keys, money and even a water pistol. We really enjoyed the book."

In London, we cooked according to the book 'Can I taste?' from Host Publishing. The nine-year-old chefs decided to 'plunge themselves into the kitchen and what they learned from the book, they tried to cook on their own. Italy interested them the most, and so they made their own pasta and on their second attempt, they made pizza. They also invited their younger peers into the kitchen to share everything they had learned. In the end, they made a book with pictures we took along the way where they described what they did and how much they enjoyed it. It was a great project and very tasty too.

7th and 8th grade students at CSWBL listened and learnt about the problematics surrounding the Germans leaving the country in the 1940s. They worked in 3 groups always with a story from the book 'Displaced Children from the Memory of the Nation'. "Together, we read the whole comic book and after the teachers handed out pre-printed comics templates. The students had to create a fictional character of a displaced child and come up with a story, which they will turn into a comic book.



1st July 2023, The ceremonial end of learning at Czech school

On Saturday 01.07. 2023 at 16:00 the 9th-grade students of the Czech School without Borders gathered at the embassy of the Czech Republic to ceremoniously mark an end to their studies along with their parents, teachers and leaders of the school. The graduates were given sashes, certificates and yearbooks. The special guests at the event were Michal Žižlavský, who takes care of the community and expatriate affairs for Czechs living in Britain, and Jiří Krátký (M.A.), the special representative for expatriate affairs of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic. Both men spoke to the graduates and stayed to engage in informal conversation accompanied by delicious refreshments. The students, their parents and their teachers very much enjoyed the festive and sentimental atmosphere.



8th July 2023, Summer Party

On the 8th of July, we enjoyed the last Saturday of Czech School. This year's final day had the theme fairy tales and bedtime stories. The teachers and pupils wore cheerful costumes and we were not deterred even by the rain, which forced us to spend most of our time in the school building. Class photos were taken right in the morning, and gingerbread cookies were prepared in the large sports hall for decorating alongside making paper hats inspired by the famous Czech mascot, Večerníček. There was jumping in bags in the corridor, water was carried in spoonfuls and also a "chimney" race was played.

At two o'clock in the afternoon, the excellent Citronky, the school choir, performed a song from the children's series Mach and Šebestová and the movie Saxána. After that, a band made up of parents and friends of the school played and sang for more than an hour, to everyone's delight. Meanwhile, children had an opportunity to make 3D pictures of Maková panenka, get henna tattoos and try out some goodies baked by their parents. The money raised by the food sale will go to supplementing books in the school library. This year's graduates mixed delicious mocktails during the summer party. As in previous years, several of these talented graduates will join the teaching staff ranks and become members of the school team. We ended this school year with a smile and hearts full of joy, and we are looking forward to September.

