

# QSI International School of Skopje Weekly News



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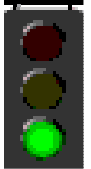
26 September 2008



## Safety

This week we had a student hit by a car in front of the school. The student is fine and is back in school. It is a reminder that we all must be diligent and stress to our children, young and old, the dangers to which we are exposed. I have asked the teachers to talk to their classes about the dangers of crossing the busy streets in Skopje and to wait for the light to turn green when crossing. I will also be speaking with the US

Embassy about the traffic light near the school to make sure that it is in working order, and that ample time is allow for safe crossing. It is still important that we all follow the rules we learned when we were younger: "Look left and listen, look right and listen, look left again and listen before you cross a busy street. Make sure the cars see you and they have stopped, and wait for the green."



## Fitness Testing

On Wednesday, 1 October, we will have the fall Mile Run for Fitness along the Vardar River. This is a bi-annual event, which is part of our Fitness Action Plan. We will leave school at 9:00. The 5 and 6 year-old-classes will be the first to run, a 400-meter course. They will be followed by the 7 year-old-class, who will run an 800 meter course. After the 5-7 year-old children have finished, they will return to school. At 9:25 the 8 year-old-class and above will leave school and head to the testing area for their turn. The staff will be on hand to help encourage all runners. Please, make sure children wear or bring sport type clothing and sneakers; a warm jacket would be nice after they finish the run. The school will provide water for the children. Parents are welcome to come and cheer for your children as they run.

## Important Dates



25 Sep - Open Stage 6:30 p.m.  
2-3 Oct - Teacher Professional Development;  
No School  
7 Oct - PTO Meeting 6:45 p.m.  
10 Oct - Fun Friday 3:30 p.m.  
21 Oct - 1<sup>st</sup> Quintile Ends  
23 Oct - Status Reports Go Home

## Homework Tips

Students in upper elementary and secondary school are busy people. They will also start to see long-range assignments that require more organization and planning - skills that will be crucial in secondary school. Here are some tips that can help with this transition:

**Organize First** - Encourage your child to plan each evening's studying carefully. Tackle assignments due tomorrow first. Then work on the project due next Monday. An assignment book is essential.

**Offer feedback** - Encourage your child, but don't offer answers. Questions like, "Does that answer look correct to you?" will help your child without doing their work for them.

**Don't procrastinate** - Leaving a large assignment until the last minute can be tempting. Encourage your child to start projects early.

**Enforce a routine** - Older students have more distractions, activities, and friends. Remind them that these are all important, but homework is essential -- Homework first; friends, computers, and hobbies later.

**Take it with you!** - Older students have LOTS going on in their busy day. Encourage your child to be sure everything is packed up for tomorrow before they go to bed.



## Weekly Bulletin Items

- Students being picked-up during the morning bus runs should be waiting at the designated pick-up point as close to the schedule time as possible. Any delay will result in delays of other students being picked-up on time. With the cooler weather this becomes important. Your help is appreciated in having your children ready for the bus drivers.
- We are excited to announce that we will be working with Scholastic Book Clubs who provide great reading resources to children around the world. The school will be sending home a flyer from Scholastic Book Clubs and some additional information regarding the cost of the books and shipping and handling charges. Ms Catherine Sun and Ms Amanda Chan have volunteered to organize this activity. Students will be able to order age appropriate books from the flyer. You can help them complete the order form and send the order back to school with the amount due. Once an order is submitted it takes 2-3 weeks for the books to be delivered to the school. Scholastic Book Clubs offer high-quality, low-priced books and software programs—all guaranteed to spark your students' interest in reading and learning. We hope you and your children will be able to take advantage of Scholastic Book Clubs to receive additional books that the children can read and enjoy.

**Did You Know?** A grizzly bear can run as fast as a horse.

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com>

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## Kenny Paige Gould

"I don't get it," I stated as I looked blankly back and forth between my parents and the sheet of paper I was holding in my hand. It was Christmas morning and my parents had set up a scavenger hunt leading towards our big gifts. My brother got two four-wheelers, but so far all I could make of my gift was a sheet of paper with an adorable picture of a baby horse on it.

"Look at the highlighted part in the right hand corner," replied my dad. I did as I was told. My name was highlighted and above it said "Owner." I looked at them with a confused expression. Seeing I still didn't get it, my mom said, "Now look at the horse's name." That's when something clicked, and I finally understood. His name was Kenny, and he was my horse! It was the best gift I had ever received.

A couple days later when all of the Christmas hype was over my mom drove me to the barn I knew so well, to see my horse. I had already ridden Kenny a couple of times as a lesson horse, but this would be my first time riding him as his owner. Excitement was practically oozing out of me. That was the day I began to learn the basics in horse owning. It was a lot of fun, but at the same time it was quite a bit of work.

Since I was still in school I could only manage going to the barn a few times a week. However, the days I was there I began to form a bond with Kenny. I talked to him, rode him, groomed him, and fed him. After a while he even started to recognize who I was. Sometimes he would act out, obviously, but it still just made our bond grow bigger and bigger.

One day I walked into the barn and Kenny's ears perked up when he noticed me walking towards him. After tacking up, I opened his door and walked out, but when I turned around to grab his lead, he had already followed me out the door. I kept walking, and he kept following. The fact that I had gained his full trust nearly made me pass out. I had always wanted a horse I could love, and who would love me back. And now I finally had one!

As time passed by my riding improved and Kenny became a more skilled horse. I suspected that it was because we were so comfortable together. Being so comfortable with him, I had no problem trying different things; and because he was so comfortable with me he listened when I began to teach him. I wasn't the only one realizing that we had improved as a team. My riding instructor and my friends would usually remark things like, "You guys look really good together lately!" or, "You two are so cute together, and when you ride it looks really nice." It made me feel ecstatic.

Our hot streak lasted all about two weeks. Then one day I was riding with my friend and her horse like any other normal day. I was cantering in a circle on the far end of the ring when Kenny saw something that distracted him. When I finally got his attention back on me, we were extremely close to the wall. He took a sharp turn, leaving me in the dust. My body slammed against the wall and slid down like a bug hitting a windshield. Kenny was a short horse, so I didn't fall very far. However, a sharp pain flew through my right shoulder as it hit the wall. When I regained my composure and looked up, I was expecting to see Kenny running around in frenzy like most horses did when they lost their rider. Instead, I was utterly surprised to see him standing above me with his nose pressed against my shoulder. I stood up and pet his shoulder to tell him I forgave him. And when I looked into his eyes I realized just how much I loved this horse. I wasn't angry or hurt; I was just proud.

A couple years passed and I was still the proud owner of Kenny. However, one day I found out that we were going to be moving to a country called Macedonia. It would be too expensive to ship Kenny over with us, so I would have to sell him. It didn't sink in until a couple days later when someone called me asking about Kenny. Nothing was official until a couple of months later, but when he was finally gone I couldn't help but breaking down crying. It was one of the saddest days of my life.

Looking back, I realize that owning a horse for three years of my life has taught me to be more responsible and trustworthy. I have been the one responsible for keeping him healthy and happy, and he has trusted me to do that. Being the owner of Kenny has also strengthened my love for horses and riding. And no matter what happens, I will always love Kenny.

**"Love and kindness are never wasted. They always make a difference. They bless the one who receives them, and they bless you, the giver."**

~ Barbara de Anglelis ~

### **ANYWAY Mother Teresa**

People are unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered.  
Love them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish ulterior motives.  
Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and true enemies.  
Succeed anyway.

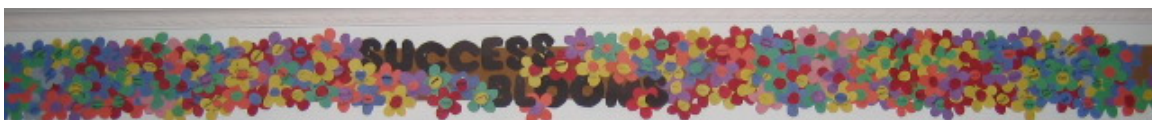
The good you do today will be forgotten tomorrow.  
Be good anyway.

Honesty and frankness will make you vulnerable.  
Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building may be destroyed overnight.  
Build anyway.

People need help but will attack you if you help them.  
Help them anyway.

In the final analysis, it is between you and God.  
It was never between you and them anyway.



## Science Club

During after school activities the younger students discovered that science can be lots of fun!



## PTO Bake Sale Was a Success!

Thank you to all who supported the PTO by baking and by eating! We have had many requests for recipes, so here are a few to share. Bake with your children and enjoy!

### Mini Kisses Peanut Butter Blossoms

Judit Forrai

Ingredients:

1/2 cup shortening  
3/4 cup Creamy Peanut Butter  
1/3 cup granulated sugar  
1/3 cup packed light brown sugar  
1 egg  
2 tablespoons milk  
1 teaspoon vanilla extract  
1-1/2 cups all-purpose flour  
1 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon salt  
Additional granulated sugar  
1-3/4 cups (10-oz. pkg.) Hershey's Mini Kisses Milk Chocolates

Directions:

1. Heat oven to 375°F
2. Beat shortening and peanut butter in large bowl until well blended. Add 1/3 cup granulated sugar and brown sugar; beat until light and fluffy. Add egg, milk and vanilla; beat well. Combine flour, baking soda and salt; gradually add to peanut butter mixture, beating until well blended.
3. Shape dough into 1-inch balls. Roll in granulated sugar; place on ungreased cookie sheet.

4. Bake 8 to 10 minutes or until lightly browned. Immediately place 3 chocolates on top of each cookie, pressing down slightly. Remove from cookie sheet to wire rack. Cool completely. Makes about 4 dozen cookies.

### Pumpkin Muffins

Elke Wilson

1 cup= 250ml  
1 cup white sugar  
1 cup brown sugar  
2 eggs  
1/2 cup olive oil  
2 cups cooked pumpkin  
2 1/2 cup flour  
1/2 teaspoon baking soda  
1/2 teaspoon baking powder  
1/4 teaspoon cloves  
1/4 teaspoon nutmeg  
1 teaspoon cinnamon  
1/2 salt  
1 1/2 cup chopped nuts

Mix all dry ingredients together; add rest of ingredients. Make sure all ingredients are well combined. Fill in paper-lined Muffin-Tin bake at 165 C for about 20 Min. or until toothpick comes out clean. Can also be done as a loaf. Fill dough in greased and floured loaf pan and bake for

about 50 min. again test with toothpick.

### Mini Pecan Pies

Pattie Brinkman

Dough:

1/2 cup butter, softened  
3 oz cream cheese (6 Tb, or 85 grams - ABC brand works fine)  
1/8 tsp salt  
Cream together, add 1 cup flour

Refrigerate at least one hour. Divide into 24 balls, put in MINI muffin pans and shape into little pies (there is a wooden instrument that does this quickly and easily, but you can also do it with your thumb). Divide 2/3 cup chopped pecans between the 24 dough balls (walnuts work, too)  
Spoon filling over nuts.

Filling:

1 egg, beaten  
1 Tablespoon butter, melted  
3/4 cup brown sugar  
pinch salt  
1 teaspoon vanilla

bake at 325 (F) 25 minutes



## Chemistry Lesson

The students in Mr. Vardar's 13 year-old science class showed extraordinary interest in using different laboratory equipment this past week. They were also able to recognize the basic elements for the first time!

## German Class

Ms Stojana's students from her Secondary I German class had a class of Creative Writing (Kreatives Schreiben). The students had the following task: *Write a story about a given picture of a painting from a couple centuries ago and try to connect it with a word of this century.* I hope you will like them. Here is one of them. The others will appear over the next few weeks.

### Mann am Strand vs. Flugzeug Von Martin Muellender

An einem schönen Tag saß ein Mann am Strand. Er war schon alt und seine Haare waren schon weiss. Er dachte an seinen Tod und was danach passieren wird. Es war nämlich sein 94 Geburtstag. Er war sehr müde. Da flog ein Flugzeug vorbei. Er guckte ihn als ob es ein Monster wäre. Lange saß er noch da und erst dann war es den Leuten Bewußt, dass er gestorben war. Dann wachte Mark sich auf und schaute sich herum. Er sitzt in einem Flugzeug und fliegt.

### A Man at the Beach vs. Plane Written by Martin Muellender

On a beautiful day a man was sitting at the beach. He was old and his hair was already grey. He thought about his death and what will happen afterwards. In fact, it was his 94<sup>th</sup> birthday. He was very tired. A plane flew by. He looked it as if it was a monster. He sat there for a long time. The people realized that he actually died. Then Mark woke up. He was in an airplane.

