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# Newsletter



**SEK BUDAPEST**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
**HUNGARY**  
TO BE BETTER



**125<sup>TH</sup>**  
ANNIVERSARY



## **1892-2017** **125 years of service in the field of Education**

This year, 2017, is very special for us. Our parent group, the **SEK International Institution**, is **celebrating its 125th anniversary**.

We are very proud to be part of one of the most prestigious educational organisations in the world, with a presence in Europe, Latin America, the USA, and South Africa, where we are educating students of 54 nationalities and having teachers representing 30 nationalities.

In each of our schools we offer the highest standards in our educational offering as well as employing the latest in educational resources.

All of this, we owe in the main to you, the thousands of families who have trusted their children to our care during these 125 years of our history.

We are truly grateful for this trust and in considering us as a valid option for the collaboration with yourselves in the challenging, yet rewarding task of educating your children.

TO BE BETTER.



### A Note from the Head Teacher

Dear Readers,

Welcome to this special number of our SEK Budapest Newsletter!

I would proudly encourage you to read the first editorial of this Issue of the Newsletter, which celebrates the 125th anniversary of the establishment of our Institution. An Institution with a great history that takes pride in its achievements in the educational field.

Through this I would like to express my gratitude to you, the SEK Families, who have entrusted the education of your children to us and form an important part of the history of our Institution.

Kind Regards,

Ms. Gabriella Gidró  
Head Teacher

We invite you to follow us on Facebook and visit our website!



## Calendar

20 Jan	Closing First Term
27 Jan	First Term Report Cards
30 Jan	White Week
14 Feb	Valentines Day / Carnival
16 Feb	IB Admissions Test for Prospective Students
23 Feb	History Alive

SEK Green Week (Costa Rica): February 27 - March 3  
For more information check: <http://greenweek.sekcostarica.com/>

## OPINION SECTION



decision, but indeed it was. I was seven years old when Anastasia the six-week old Alaskan moved into our apartment. Since she was my dog, I took responsibility of her and eventually she never left my side. Nine years later a week before summer break I woke up to find her dead. I was heartbroken.

One month into the break, I was to visit my father in the countryside. When I arrived at the depot, he was excited about a surprise he had waiting for me. At his house I found a brand new puppy dog in the kennel in the backyard. I wanted nothing to do with it and for the first week of my vacation, refused to go near it.

During the day, when my dad was at work I spent time with my aunts and uncles, who I only saw during the summer. Uncle Dániel, who lost his wife years back and always kept on talking about that he would never have another love, so he could never get hurt again. I had already listened to his story countless times before. This was the first time I actually paid attention. I understood this was the cause of his bitterness; he denied himself joy, because of the prospect of pain. I realized that it's a sad and lonely way to live. I became aware that in order to be happy in life, we have to risk times of grief.

I went back to my father's place and headed straight to the kennel to name my new dog. This was the best and most difficult decision I have ever made because I finally appreciate that love comes with both open hazards.

Viktor Weisz  
11 IB Student

## FEATURES

### Student Focus

#### Grade 6 Students Zalán Sávy and Kolos Kuthy Became Hungarian National Tennis Champions



We are so proud to share with the SEK Community that two of our extremely talented and hard-working Grade 6 students, Zalán Sávy and Kolos Kuthy have achieved the outstanding merit of becoming Hungarian National Champions in Tennis within their age categories.

However he is living proof that the most important thing in achieving your goals is to persist and work hard. He trains five times a week and has at least one competition per month.

His role models are Novak Djokovic and Andy Roddick.

"My parents are the most helpful and supportive ones and my trainers do everything for me to reach my goals.

Sometime it's hard to balance studying with my sports especially when I am in a competition."

Zalán shared this useful tip with his peers: "During competition time I take my books and in the breaks I study and concentrate on school work which helps me a lot."

In the same competition Kolos achieved the amazing third place making us proud! And if this wasn't amazing enough both Kolos and Zalán playing couples and won first place yet again.

Kolos tells us that he started playing tennis when he was six years old and now he trains five times a week. His biggest inspirations are Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal, as he explains, "it is because I like their playing styles and admire them as people too."

"My family and my trainers are my biggest supporters and my biggest accomplishment so far was this one in the couples category."

Kolos and Zalán also told us the story of how they met and ended up being classmates and friends. "We met at a couple of championships and then we ended up in the same club and we became the top of our team so we went abroad and then started playing together. This was three years ago."

Zalán also mentioned that he has a competition next week in the Czech Republic and he would like to reach a high score there too

In school both students enjoy the art classes because they are creative and in history and Hungarian they learn interesting things.

We congratulate them on their achievements and wish them good luck in the future!

- Angelica Cvetkovic  
Marketing Assistant

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### Teacher Focus: Ms. Katie - The New 3A Tutor



**KATIE ZELINA**  
ENGLISH TEACHER

We are pleased to share with you that our Grade 3A has begun the new semester with the welcoming of their newly appointed tutor, Ms. Katie Zelina.

Ms. Katie is a motivated and qualified young teacher who has been with us since September of 2016 and teaches English in primary school.

Let's see what the 3A students told the Newsletter about Ms. Katie!

"I am happy that Ms. Katie is my tutor because we can learn a lot with her."

- Noel

"My favorite thing about Ms. Katie is that she is so kind."

- Zsófi

"I'm happy that Ms. Katie is my tutor because she helps people, she's kind and nice, and she's a great tutor."

"My favorite things about Ms. Katie are that she is kind and she is a great English teacher."

she is really kind x10000."



### Alumni Focus: Tünde and Krisztina Zhu Yao - Class of 2014 and 2013



Tünde Zhu Yao on the far left at her Class of 2014 Farewell.

Hi!

My name is Tünde and I am a final year Management student at the University of Manchester.

My relationship with SEK Budapest started 15 years ago, more specifically on the 1st of September, 2002. That day I became a first-grade student in a huge classroom with 20 other students that I had never met before. However, I wasn't lonely because on the same day my sister, Kriszti, transferred to SEK, to their second grade, just next to my classroom. Both my sister and I stood out due to our Chinese background, but we didn't feel out of place at all.

Throughout the twelve years in SEK, I have created many memories, both sad and happy, but probably without these, I wouldn't be the person I am right now. I am sometimes nostalgic about those sports day, excursion to different cities and museums, ice creams for lunch, going to toilet with friends and gossiping, PE classes when we just played, and so on.

I enjoyed my time in the IB very much and appreciate the skills it gave me for my further studies.

And I will never forget what I learnt on the first day of TOK, which is **“Knowledge is a true belief that can be justified.”**

Greetings to all my SEK peers and teachers from Kriszti and me!

Tünde Zhu Yao

## SPOTLIGHT:

### SEK Budapest White Week

#### SEK BUDAPEST 2017 WHITE WEEK



SEK BUDAPEST  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
HUNGARY

	1st to 5th grade / 8:00-16:00	6th to 11th grade / 9:00-12:00
<b>Monday</b> 30.01.2017	Warm up - Sports and games Zenebona (music workshop) at Palace of Arts Lunch Sound and Music (recycled music instruments and singing)	Practice Math Hungarian as Foreign Language Spanish Intesive (DELE)
<b>Tuesday</b> 31.01.2017	Warm up - Sports and games Ice Skating Lunch Sound and Music (science experiments with sound )	Practice Math Hungarian as Foreign Language Spanish Intesive (DELE)
<b>Wednesday</b> 01.02.2017	Warm up Sports Lunch Sound and Music (recycled music instruments and singing)	Practice Math Hungarian as Foreign Language Spanish Intesive (DELE)
<b>Thursday</b> 02.02.2017	Warm up - Sports and games The Champion Exhibition (Millenáris) Lunch Sound and Music (science experiments with sound )	Practice Math Hungarian as Foreign Language Spanish Intesive (DELE)
<b>Friday</b> 03.02.2017	Warm up Sports and games Lunch Sound and Music (final presentation)	Practice Math Hungarian as Foreign Language Spanish Intesive (DELE)

AZ ÚSZÁS ÉS A DÉLUTÁNI FOGLALKOZÁSOK A FEHÉR HÉTEN SZÜNTELENEK!

A BUSZ SZOLGÁLTATÁS A FEHÉR HÉTEN VÁLTOZATLANUL MŰKÖDIK.

SWIMMING LESSONS AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ARE CANCELLED DURING THE WHITE WEEK.

SCHOOL BUSES RUN DURING THE WHITE WEEK.

#### WHITE WEEK REINFORCEMENT CLASSES

During the **White Week (30<sup>th</sup> January – 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017)** from 9:00am to 12:00 we offer reinforcement sessions in Mathematics and Hungarian as a foreign language for student from **6<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup> grade**, as well as an intensive preparation course for the Spanish DELE exam.

We ask the students to wear the school uniform during the whole white week.

Please, send back the registration form by 19<sup>th</sup> January 2017.

We look forward to working with your child.

#### GRADES 1 TO 5 WHITE WEEK

We would like to inform you that for the White Week, from 30<sup>th</sup> January to 3<sup>rd</sup> February 2017 we organize

interactive games.

As part of arts, we would like to invite our students to explore sound and musical instruments through science experiments and to use recycled materials to make their own instruments. They will also have an opportunity to practice singing in a choir.

Activities and outings will be held from 08:00 to 16:00 together with games & warm up time. Both sports and arts activities will be held in English.

The cost of the program for 1- 5 grade is 9.500 HUF.

The price includes regular school meals, transportation and entrance fees. If the children don't have their own pair of skates, they can borrow them at the rink for 800 HUF.

During these programs students should wear their sport uniform.

**Please, send back the registration form by 19<sup>th</sup> January, 2017, 14.00 pm.**



**SEK BUDAPEST**  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
**HUNGARY**  
TO BE BETTER

**TÉLI PROGRAMOK AZ ÓVODÁBAN**  
**WINTER ACTIVITIES IN PRESCHOOL**  
**2017.01.30. - 02.03.**

	Morning activities	Afternoon activities
H. 30.	Spanish morning Music and activities about North and South Pole	Inside sports in the gym movements of the animals
K. 31.	Art Experience at Rózsadombi Képzőművészeti Akadémia 09:20 - 11:30	Black and white  paperplate pinguins
SZ. 01.	Csopa Science Center 09:00 - 12:30	Build an iglu from icecube (outdoor activities)
CS. 02.	Chefparade - Winter cookies 09:00-12:00	Lauren Child - Charlie and Lola Snow is my favourite and my best Story telling and acting
P. 03.	Smartboard singing and music winter animal dance	Get your own certification about winter Winter celebration

AZ ÚSZÁS OKTATÁS ÉS A DÉLUTÁNI FOGLALKOZÁSOK A FEHÉR HÉTEN NEM LESZNEK MEGTARTVA  
A BUSZ SZOLGÁLTATÁS A FEHÉR HÉTEN VÁLTOZATLANUL MŰKÖDIK.

*DURING WHITE WEEK THERE ARE NO SWIMMING LESSONS AND AFTER SCHOOL ACTIVITIES.  
SCHOOL BUSES RUN DURING THE WHITE WEEK.*

We would like to inform you that the week of 30 January to 5 February we will organize various educational, health-promoting, cultural and at the same time entertaining programs for those preschool students who do not plan to go skiing during the White Week. We would like to offer interesting and exciting activities for the children.

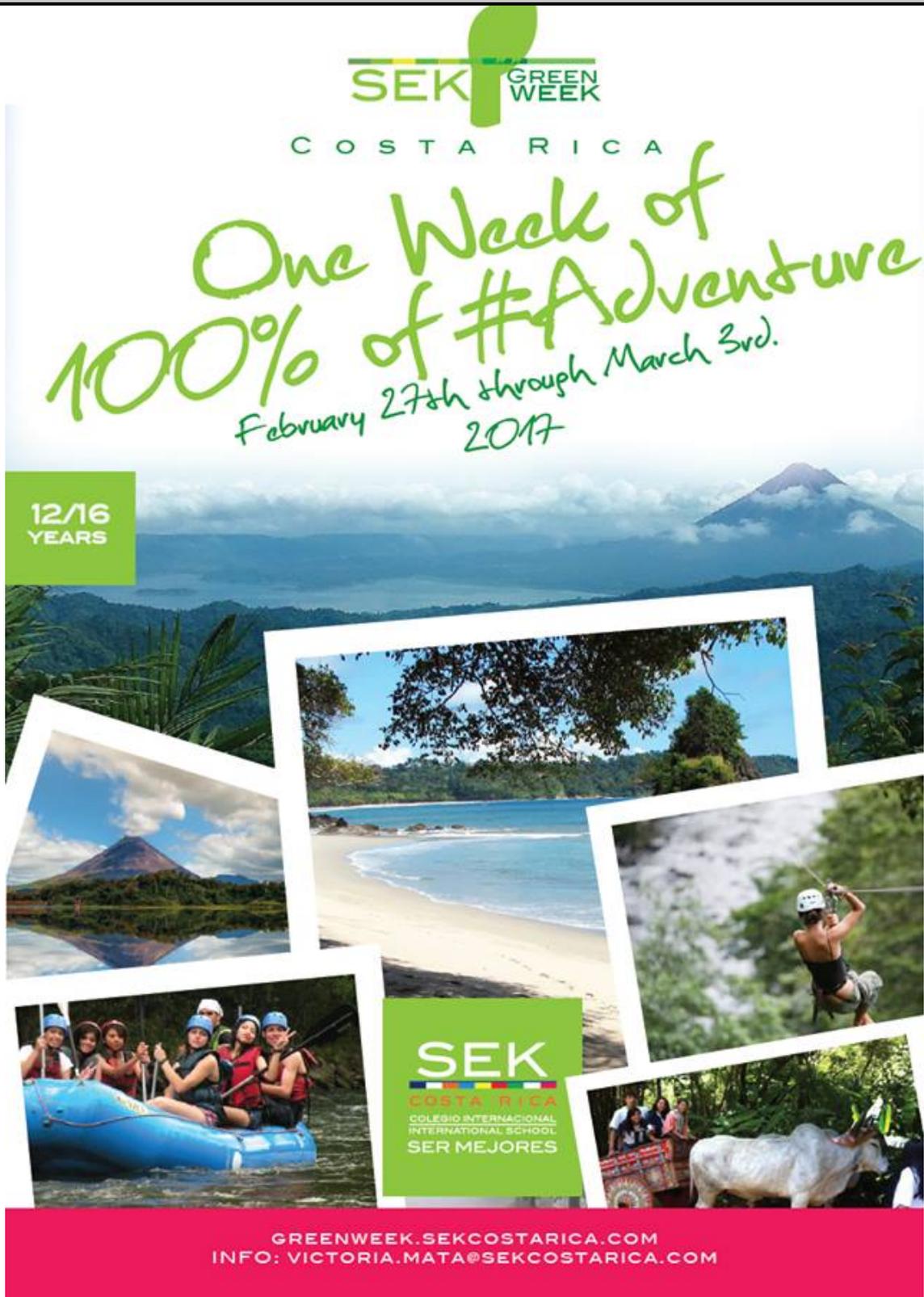
The programs will take place from 8:00 to 16:00. The school also offers morning and afternoon duties from 7.00 to 8.00 am and from 16.00 to 17.00pm.

The White Week overall cost is 19.000 HUF (in case of min. 15 participants).

If the child will participate in the programmes only some days instead of the whole week, we will charge you 75% of the overall cost (14.250 HUF).

## SPOTLIGHT:

**SEK Green Week in Costa Rica: Are you ready for the adventure?**



The poster features the SEK Green Week logo at the top, with 'SEK' in green and 'GREEN WEEK' in white on a green background. Below it, 'COSTA RICA' is written in green capital letters. The main title 'One Week of 100% of #Adventure' is written in a large, green, handwritten-style font. Underneath, the dates 'February 27th through March 3rd, 2017' are written in a smaller, green, handwritten-style font. A green box on the left side contains the text '12/16 YEARS'. The background is a collage of photos: a volcano, a beach, a person ziplining, a group of people rafting, and a person riding a white ox. A green box at the bottom of the collage contains the SEK logo and the text 'COSTA RICA COLEGIO INTERNACIONAL INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL SER MEJORES'. At the very bottom, a pink banner contains the website 'GREENWEEK.SEKCOSTARICA.COM' and the email 'INFO: VICTORIA.MATA@SEKCOSTARICA.COM'.

12/16  
YEARS

SEK  
COSTA RICA  
COLEGIO INTERNACIONAL  
INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL  
SER MEJORES

GREENWEEK.SEKCOSTARICA.COM  
INFO: VICTORIA.MATA@SEKCOSTARICA.COM

Did you know about SEK Green Week in Costa Rica? It's amazing!

- \* You can visit protected & recreational areas of the Northern Zone, the Caribbean and the Pacific of the beautiful Costa Rica
- \* The program is aimed at SEK/IES students from 7th grade onward.
- \* The date is: February 27th to March 3rd 2017.
- \* During the tours the students, besides being accompanied by staff of SEK Institution shall be assisted by bilingual Costa Rican environmental educators and a paramedic.

For More Information Visit: <http://greenweek.sekcostarica.com/>

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## CURRENT EVENTS AND NEWS

### A Note from our Assistant Principal - Ms. Ivana Cvetkovic - January, 2017



We are pleased to inform you that we are finalizing the preparations for entering into the second semester of the 2016/2017 academic year at SEK Budapest by making a series of adjustments to the overall school class schedule, as well as the teacher-to-class-assignments.

The students have been informed of all the changes and they have already started working in accordance to their new schedules.

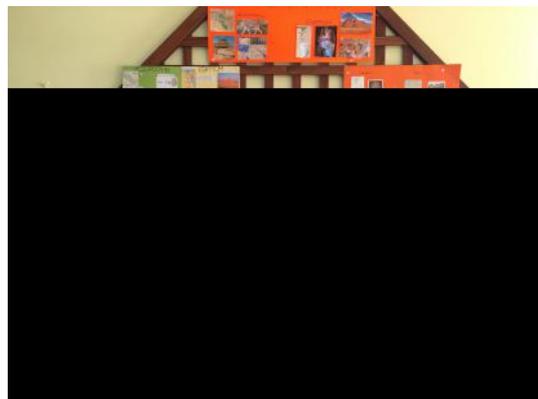
We assure you that all the changes have been made on a need basis to assure the maximum learning potential in each group.

I wish all our students and teachers great closing results for the first semester and a successful second semester!

Ms. Ivana Cvetkovic  
Assistant Principal

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### Grade 5 History Project - January, 2017

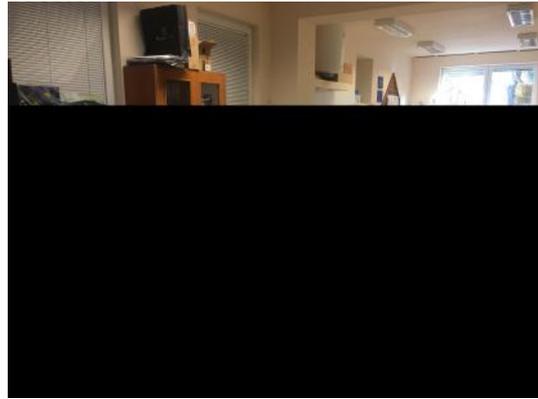
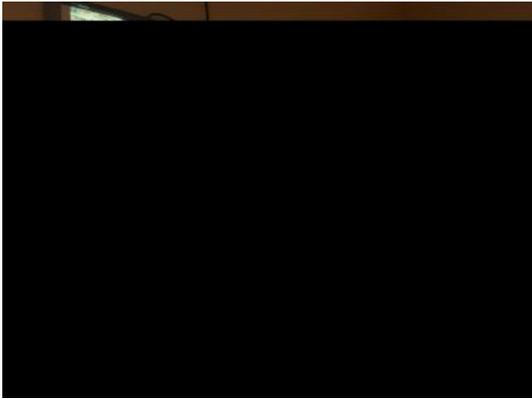


Az ötödik osztály idén novemberben és decemberben az ókori Közel-Kelet történetével ismerkedett meg. A tanulók a száraz tananyag mellett és a frontális tanuláson túl érdekes projekt munkával tették érdekesebbé és színesebbé tanulmányaikat. Az elkészített prezentációk jelenleg az iskola folyosóját díszítik.

In November and December of this academic year our Grade 5 students had the chance to familiarize themselves with the history of the Ancient Near-East. Besides the lexical curriculum of the lessons the students made their learning more immersive and interesting by working on a series of projects related to the topic.

Furó József  
History Teacher

## University Application Orientation for Grade 11 and 12 - January 18, 2017



As part of a series of University application and choosing orientation and guidance lessons our 11 and 12 grade students participated in a presentation on January 18, 2017.

The presentation was focused on the application process for universities outside of Hungary and offered the students a solid and detailed overview and background of the process they will soon be facing. The presentation was followed by an interactive Skype session with a Junior student at NYU who interns at the NYU Admissions Office and was able to give students many useful tips as well as answer their questions.

At SEK Budapest we pride ourselves in our high achieving students many of whom have throughout the years gone to some of the highest ranking universities in the world and Hungary, therefore we put a special stress on preparing them for this.

Among these universities are:

University College London  
New York University  
Boston University  
Simmelweis University  
University of Aberdeen  
King's College London  
Universidad Complutense de Madrid  
Maastricht University

Angelica Cvetkovic  
Marketing Assistant

## OUR SEK PEERS AROUND THE WORLD



Our Great Experience at St. John's International School

"Having the opportunity to go to St. John's was the most amazing experience we could ever have. Being able to live and share with students from lots of different cultures was incredible. The best part about this trip was all the memorable friendships we made with people from all around the world, including Taiwan, Spain, Costa Rica, Chile and the list may go on and on. We enjoyed all the field trips we had and all different activities during the weekends, including parties. The remarkable lessons that we had at St. John's taught us responsibility and independence, as being abroad can be difficult, though after all, we had the teachers, staff and friends to help us, so it all turned into just an amazing experience.

In St. John's it takes a day to meet your classmates, a week to become friends and 3 months and a half to create a family.

To conclude, we believe everyone should have an adventure like this at least once in their life. We loved St. John's and we hope we can go back some day.

**Carlos U., Andrea Ch, Saul M., Cecilia F., Michelle C., Paula A.,  
Antonio P., Diego V  
Alumnos de 9º**



## Science Fun

The children in Reception and Pre-school enjoyed a Science afternoon investigating different materials and solutions. In their experiment they had lots of fun mixing paint with foam to see how the mixture felt and to see what changes took place when they added more paint.

It certainly was a messy experience but the children learned lots and had so much fun!

Mrs Ives

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## Contact

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 Forward

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