

# Eda's News

EduArt Nursery and Preschool Newsletter  
6/2021

Dear parents, dear friends,

June is the last month of the school year. We operate EduArt 12 months a year, so we do not feel this as strongly as children in primary schools whose holidays are about to begin. For example. However, it means and we have the opportunity to look back at the year that was different than all the rest.

In our EduArt Prague 4 branch, we will say goodbye to the first school year we spent here as EduArt. However, as it was our first year, a series of positive changes were made. Each coin has two sides, so we also took advantage of the COVID pandemic and forced closure to make improvements. We revitalized the garden and spaces in general. The kindergarten is flourishing, and we are doing everything we can to enter the new school year with enthusiasm and a rich program that we have been developing for a long time.

In our EduArt Prague 2 branch, we have our hands full preparing for the reconstruction, which will take place over the holiday months. We plan to install new skylights. We are warmed by the feeling that after demanding construction modifications we will be able to welcome your children in even better spaces, which will be wonderfully lit. For us, this means a big step forward and thank you for coming with us.

However, back to June - the month of the summer solstice. Ever warmer and friendlier weather invites us to spend as much time outside as possible. On the following pages of our newsletter, you can read about the most important events of the month. Much more awaits us!

Be sure not to miss the article by our teacher Michal Křístek from Prague 2. It deals with information technology in our kindergarten. ICT has a significant presence in both of our kindergartens, and children work with tablets and the 3BOX interactive data projector. The last page belongs to our new American teacher Sarah Tully, who has been working in our Prague 2 branch since May.

We wish you nice summer days !

Radka Wirthová  
co-founder



# June at Vinohrady

## EVENT CALENDAR

Children's day Celebration	1.6.
Olympics - sports week	7.- 11.6.
Theater - Fores Fairytale	16.6.
Project week - artificial environments and human impact	21.-25.6.
Fairy tale night ("Little donut")	25.6.



In The last month of the traditional school year, June, is here! Spring is has given its reign to summer and we too are adapting our topics to fit the season. In our first week, we will celebrate children and childhood in the form of International Children's Day. Let's remember how unique all children are and how they truly are our future. The celebrations will take place with an emphasis on joy, happiness, inspirational creation, music and mutual belonging.

The second week will be about sports. We will prepare an Olympic Games for children, one where no one loses. Children will try non-traditional sports (discus throw, rugby, tennis and much more), which will not only broaden their horizons, but also test their sports flexibility and abilities.

After celebrations and sports activities, we will relax in the forest in the third week. This temple of nature provides an amazing number of opportunities for creation and research. The children will make use of all their senses during this week. The rich repertoire of songs, poems and fairy tales with forest themes will not be left out either.

At the end of June, we will finish up our year-round theme of habitats. We all know the built world and will explore the themes of a man-made world, Children will find that these are habitats that fundamentally affect the climate on our planet. We will also talk about what the man-made world is for, how to change it, and how this all affects nature.

### Weekly topics:

- Children's Day Celebration
- Sports
- In the forest
- Artificial ecosystems and human activity

# June at Libuš

We will celebrate the arrival of the first summer month with Children's Day. We bought a new rabbit Ouško, and we will go to the vet with him for a check-up. Thanks to the warmer weather, we are looking forward to spending as much time outside as possible and have fun playing with water.

Next week we will discover the topic of the universe. We will learn a lot about planets, we will be looking at books and encyclopaedias about the cosmos, and we will use our imagination to build our own planetary system.

In the third week, we will focus on the world around us. We will talk about what it looks like in our country - Czech Republic, we will learn the meaning of national flags and find out what the globe is for. As the school year draws to a close, a funny garden party with clowns awaits us!

At the end of this summer month, we will learn more about the continents of our planet, we will also talk about the global diversity of people and cultures. At the end of the month we will be visited by Tomáš Vacek, with whom we will have a lot of fun at music therapy.

## Weekly topics:

- Water fun
- Universe
- The World Around Us
- Continents

## EVENT CALENDAR

<b>Project Day: At the Vet</b>	<b>31.5.</b>
<b>Children's Day Garden Party</b>	<b>1.6.</b>
<b>Summer party with clowns</b>	<b>15.6.</b>
<b>Fairy Tale Night (About Stars)</b>	<b>18.6.</b>
<b>Musicotherapy</b>	<b>22.6.</b>





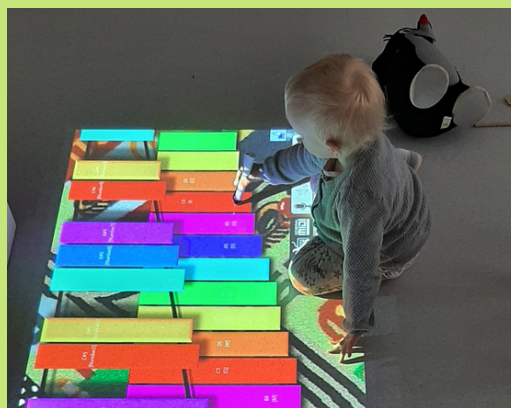
# Children and Information Technology

*Michal Křístek*

Today, children know new technologies from an early age. First, as passive recipients, in the form of fairy tales or music when falling asleep. Later they become involved as active users as they begin to control and use these technologies. The field of information technology (ICT), like any other issue, has its pros and cons. However, it must be accepted that these technologies are part of today's world and will be seen and used by children throughout their lives. Complete denial of access to ICT for children is short-sighted and counterproductive. Equally bad, however, would be boundless access to them without any rules.

The main and only coordinator in the child's life, and therefore the only responsible person who determines the degree of impact of ICT on the child, is the adult. The child themselves does not have enough skills, knowledge, or experience to be able to set the pace on their own.

As parents or teachers, we must make sure that time in front of screens is limited. With the long-term and mostly uncontrollable effect of ICT on the child, there can be social separation, declines in natural human communication and the development of empathy, sensory deprivation and many other negative effects. Likewise, an absolute ban on ICT is undesirable. Full restriction could lead to exclusion from a group of peers, and, in old age, a decline in the ability to learn, think critically and apply themselves in society.



Therefore, I recommend making ICT available to children at an early age. I suggest it mainly for joint interactions or for fun learning and skills development. It is a good idea to set a time in advance for this activity. It is also recommended that the parent is the first to understand the applications or games themselves and then guide the child. After playing, it is good to evaluate the activity together and get feedback from the child.

Important principles in relation to children & ICT:

- less is more - less time with ICT, but more intensity and focus on the activity
- order - know how the application works, what it develops, and how to work with it
- content - really pay attention to what the child is watching and what he or she has access to
- quality - the child should have fun with the activity and the activity should be chosen with the abilities and skills of the child in mind.



In conclusion, I would like to mention that we also work with ICT in our EduArt kindergarten in the form of a tablet, laptop and most importantly with interactive data projector 3BOX. When using these technologies, we strictly and carefully pay attention to all of the above so that these tools are helpful and complement the complexity and diversity of the overall educational process. In an upcoming newsletter, we will introduce you to them in more detail.

# Sarah Tully - new teacher at Prague 2

Hi! I'm Sarah. Originally from Boulder, Colorado (USA), I have been living in the Czech Republic now since 2013. Mluvím trochu Český a miluju Prahu!



I have been teaching children since moving to Prague and have my certificate in Teaching Young Learners as well as a TEFL certificate (Teach English as a Foreign Language). Before moving here, I taught ESL (English as a Second Language) to international students and did my bachelor's degree in Applied Linguistics, with a focus in World Englishes.

I love studying the many facets of English, and seeing the ways people (especially children) learn it. In my free time, I love exploring the many parks of Prague. My dog Charlie is a big fan of Riegrovy Sady, so maybe you will see us there!

When not taking a walk or reading a sci-fi/fantasy book in the park, you may find me throwing some mugs on the wheel, as I love ceramics. In fact, I love most forms of arts and crafts. I am extremely excited to join the Eduart family and hope to meet you all soon!

