

# Annual Report

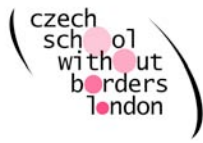
## Czech School Without Borders, London 2012/13



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[www.czechschool.org.uk](http://www.czechschool.org.uk)

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## ***1 Czech School Without Borders, London - overview***

### ***Czech School Without Borders, London***

*A Company Limited by Guarantee, no 7323697*

*Registered Charity Number 1151158*

*Director: Zuzana Jungmanová*

#### *Management Committee:*

*Lucie Wenigerová, Chair*

*Renata Clark, Vice Chair*

*Jakub Pachanský, Treasurer*

*Renata Rust, Secretary*

*Petra O'Connell, Member*

*Alena Wilken, Member*

#### *Staff:*

*Iva Hopkins, Cashier*

*Blanka Jaurisová, Head Teacher and Teacher*

*Jana Martykánová, Speech Therapist*

*Pavla Yeats, Teacher*

*Ivona Klemensová, Teacher*

*Adam Hrabal, Teacher*

*Eliška Šustová, Teacher*

*Michaela Jeřábek, Teacher*

*Kateřina Filipová, Teacher Assistant*

*Michaela Sanytrová, Teacher Assistant*

*Veronika Prokopová, Teacher Assistant*

*Pavel Stanislav, Volunteer*

*Jitka Qorri, Volunteer*

*Jana Semirádová, Volunteer*

*Markéta Klusáčková, Volunteer*

*Šárka Quhali, Volunteer*

*Klára Staníková, Volunteer*

*Štěpánka Bulířová, Volunteer*

*Jitka Wenham, Volunteer*

*Dagmar Kraft, Volunteer*

*Monika Aysan, Volunteer*



## **2. A letter from the Chair**

July 11, 2013

*Dear friends / Milí přátelé,*

*Since our establishment in December 2009 we have grown considerably, both in numbers as well as in the activities that we do. We currently provide education for more than 170 children aged 2 to 11 in our Saturday school and preschool, in the Sunday art club 'Steps towards Czech', and our Wednesday art and language classes in Harpenden. In addition, during the half-terms in this academic year we have opened a Sunday drama club DraCZECH for Czech and English bilingual children, and the highly popular English-language DRAGON for children coming from various organizations in Islington.*

*Given this rapid growth, it would be a good idea to summarize a few facts about our organization:*

*Czech School Without Borders, London, is a company limited by a guarantee and a registered charity.*

*All parents whose children attend our classes regularly automatically become members of the organization. You have the right to vote for members of the Management Committee at the AGMs and – indeed – become a member of the Management Committee.*

*The members of the Management Committee are volunteers who must not benefit financially from the organization. The main task of the Management Committee is to make sure that the organization adheres to the laws and regulations set out by the Companies House and the Charities Commission. We make sure that all necessary policies are adopted, including the Child Protection Policy, and that all our staff and volunteers are CRB checked. We also make sure that the organization is run within the budget, using its resources to the benefit of all our pupils.*

*The Management Committee liaises closely with the Director Zuzka Jungmanová, who has the overall responsibility of the day-to-day running of the organization. The Headteacher Blanka Jaurisová has overall responsibility for the running of the school from Reception Class upwards. All our teachers in the school have received university Pedagogy or Philosophy degrees in the Czech Republic, and each teacher is assisted by at least one assistant and / or a volunteer.*

*We are currently in the process of finalizing our curriculum, working closely with the Czech Ministry of Education and in collaboration with the Czech School Without Borders, Paris. The curriculum will be used by the Reception Class up to Year Nine, and covers Czech language, literature, history and geography; it will be specifically tailored for our bilingual children.*

*The fees we collect customarily cover two thirds of the budget (for detailed information please see the enclosed Financial Statements year ended 31 March 2013), while the rest is covered with grants from the Czech Republic (Czech Ministries of Foreign Affairs and Education, Czechoslovak Institute) and the UK (Mother Tongue Supplementary School Partnership in Islington).*

*We have an exciting and challenging year ahead of us. We will be opening a new reception class for twenty-five children. We are planning a move to new premises in St David's Church in Westbourne Road. The fact that we are now a registered charity opens a new lot of fundraising opportunities in the UK. Last but not least, the Education Committee of the Czech Parliament is preparing an amendment to the Czech Education Law whereby the Czech Schools Without Borders become part of the official Czech system of education, which we wholeheartedly support!*

*With best wishes / S vřelými pozdravy,*

*Lucie Wenigerová*

*Chair of the Management Committee*

*Czech School Without Borders, London*

### ***3. Calendar of Activities***

#### ***School Section of CSBH London***

This academic year our school section was attended by 54 pupils in total (aged between 5 and 10). Our Saturdays' lessons were mainly focused on the development of pupils' language and communication skills, but we also incorporated an introduction to Czech geography and history into our syllabus.

Since 1<sup>st</sup> January 2012 it is not obligatory any more for Czech children to take final exams, nevertheless many parents are still interested in their children taking this exam, since it gives them a chance to compare the level of knowledge with children living in the Czech Republic. Lately, the exams were organised in cooperation with "Guth-Jarkovsky Elementary School" in Prague. The exams took place on 22<sup>nd</sup> June 2013 in the St Mary Magdalene's Church in Islington where the lessons are usually undertaken place. All 23 children who took the exam passed it successfully (year 1 – 6 pupils, year 2 - 5 pupils, year 3 – 10 pupils, year 4 – 2 pupils).

#### ***Structure of the School Section***

The School Section consists of 5 classes (preparatory class and year 1-4):

***Preparatory class (minimum age 5):*** Children develop their communication skills in Czech, try some simple reading and writing, practise correct pronunciation (if needed, with the assistance of our speech therapist), their skills are enhanced through art and drama education.

***Year 1 (minimum age 6):*** Pupils are encouraged to express themselves in sentences, both orally and in writing. They practise writing in cursive and correct pronunciation (if required assistance of our speech therapist, if needed), they learn to present books they like and they are introduced to simple literary terminology.

**Year 2 (minimum age 7):** Pupils develop further their written and oral skills, especially through genres of description and narration. They practice reading, understanding and interpretation of text, focusing on broadening their vocabulary.

**Year 3 (minimum age 8):** Pupils work on their grammatical knowledge; they are introduced to basic geographical and historical facts and they are encouraged to use provided information

**Year 4 (minimum age 9):** Pupils develop their writing and stylistic skills, they are introduced to new grammatical rules and syntactical structures. They continue to discover geography and history and they are encouraged to use the information provided in a creative way within in their written tasks.

### ***Pre-school section***

There are two pre-school sections, divided by age. The first group is for children aged between 2½ and 3½ and the second group is for older children aged between 3½ and 5½. Children are gently introduced to Czech language education. The older group regularly performs in our shows. This year we focused on our body and we rehearsed a short performance based on the cartoon “Byl jednou jeden život” (Once upon a Time...Life)

### ***Dragon Drama Club (03.11. 2012)***

This three-day workshop was dedicated to English-speaking children aged 5 and it was opened to all nationalities. The theme of the workshop was “The heritage of my ancestors’ country”. In the course of three days, children met new friends and learnt about characteristics of the countries their families come from. Children were introduced to dramatic speech and taught how to express themselves on the stage. They made puppets together, the stage setting and props followed by rehearsal of a show. The workshop ended with a little performance for parents and friends.

### ***Sunday lessons – A step towards Czech***

Sunday courses are intended for school and pre-school children with passive knowledge of Czech, who need to widen their vocabulary and gain some confidence speaking Czech. Lessons include various games, watching fairy-tales, engaging activities, reading, art and music education. The lessons are taught in Czech, however wherever necessary, we use translation too. These lessons are not meant to be regular Czech language classes but rather a bridge between passive and active knowledge and usage of the language. Children attending Sunday’s classes in the Czech Centre usually have good passive knowledge, so the progression is quite rapid and often noticeable. Our aim is to assist these children to take the necessary “step towards Czech”, so that they can start attending regular school education at CSBH.



### *Czech School Without Borders London in Harpenden*



Since September 2011 the Czech School Without Borders in London have run supplementary lessons of Czech for bilingual children from Harpenden and the immediate surrounding area. Around 18 children meet in the Harpenden Quaker Meeting House every Wednesday afternoon. The children are separated into two groups. The first course is for pre-school children (aged between 2 and 5), where the aim of this lesson is to introduce Czech vocabulary, songs and nursery rhymes in a creative and enjoyable way, which includes various handcraft activities, games, dancing etc. Another course is designed for primary school children (aged between 5 and 11), where the objective is to broaden their vocabulary, improve writing and reading skills, explain points of grammar points appropriate for this age group. Engaging activities including games, drawing, singing and various competitions are applied in this course.

The Harpenden Czech School intends to promote Czech language and cultural traditions but more importantly to build up enough confidence to speak Czech to local children.

### *Additional activities and competitions:*



- *Camp in Windsor, autumn 2012, with the theme of „Indian Summer“*

**(27.-30.10. 2012):** Our traditional camp in the country always has an exciting theme and program to offer. This year we enjoyed life as Indians, chiefs of tribes and shamans and we were lucky that our outing was accompanied by a wonderful late autumn sun!



- ***DraCzech (03.11. 2012):*** At the beginning of November we launched a new project called “DraCzech” - Drama Club. Following the success of the first workshop we decided to continue with this project in the year 2013.



- ***Kitty from coffee foam and the Czech fairy-tale film “Micimutr” (Kitty Mama) (11.11. 2012):***

Cats were the main theme of this creative and imaginative Sunday afternoon. We started the afternoon with literary workshop about a mischievous kitty born from coffee foam, based on an eponymous book. The workshop was followed by screening of the film called “Micimutr” in the Riverside Studios. This Sunday program was supported by our partners, the Czech Embassy in London where the workshop took place while the screening was organised by the Czech Centre in London.



- ***St Nicolas 2012 (01.11.2012):*** As usual the St Nicolas Party took place in the St Mary Magdalene Church in Islington. The program included several lovely shows inspired by Czech fables prepared by our school children, Christmas workshops, carol singing, the arrival of St Nicolas, Devil and Angel, ending with a heavy wild snowfall.



- ***Christmas exhibition at the Czech Embassy in London, winter 2012***





- ***Carnival (Masopust) Afternoon (09.02. 2013):*** Traditional parade with masks



- ***Ice Age (16.02. 2013):*** Workshop in the British Museum focused on the life in the pre-historic age



- ***Mother Tongue Day (26.02. 2013):*** As part of the Mother Tongue Day several children from our school were awarded for their exceptional improvement in their mother tongue by the mayor of Islington



- ***Night with Andersen (22.03. 2013):*** A night full of fairy-tales organised in the Czech Centre in London annually, this year it was inspired by detective stories



- **Literary workshop “Magic Torch” (01.06. 2013):** A workshop organized in collaboration with the author of the book “Magic Torch”, Mrs Olga Černá, to celebrate the International Children’s Day



- **Noah’s Ark - Art workshops (14.04. and 21.04. 2013)**
- **Novel writing competition 2013:** The association „Czech on the Iceland“ organized a novel writing competition for all Czech children living abroad and two pupils from our school received awards in their categories.
- **Competition „Painting on the net“ 2013:** This year we took part in the international competition for children called „Painting on the net“ organised by the Czech Radio. This year’s theme was “Don’t be afraid of monsters”. Our children created and named their own original monsters, all of which were sent to Prague and entered into the competition.
- **Summer Party (14.07. 2013)**



- ***Dragon Drama Club 2013***

This three-day workshop was dedicated to English-speaking children aged 5 although and it was opened to all nationalities. The theme of the workshop was “The heritage of my ancestors’ country”. In the course of three days, children met new friends and learnt about characteristics of the countries their families come from. Children were introduced to dramatic speech and taught how to express themselves on the stage. They made puppets together, the stage backdrop and props followed by a rehearsal of a show. The workshop ended with a small performance for parents and friends.



- ***DraCzech 2013***

During five sessions of the Drama Club DraCzech (the first drama club for the Czech children in London) we put on a show based upon a traditional Czech fairy-tale called “Hrnečku, vař!” (Magic Mug). With the concession of the theatre “Drak” from Hradec Králové, we rehearsed their version of the eponymous play. Children studied dramatic speech and created their very own original puppets as well as the stage setting. The play will be presented at the Summer Party held at the Czech Embassy in London.