

Šlesingerová Martina

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Welcome Centre
for International Students

Welcome Centre for International Scholars

NEWSLETTER APRIL 2024

EASTER PARTY



The beginning of the new year has been bustling with activity at the Welcome Centre, where we've been delighted to host a variety of enriching events and experiences for our international scholars and their families. Here's a brief overview of the exciting happenings since the start of the year:


Czech Language Courses and Language Cafés: We kicked off the year by launching our Czech language courses, led by the esteemed Professor Kateřina Bíglová.

These courses cater to different skill levels, offering something for everyone from beginners to advanced learners. Alongside our classes, the International Club has reintroduced the monthly Language Cafés, providing a relaxed setting for practicing Czech language skills while enjoying lunch or coffee together.

Excursions and tours: We've had the pleasure of organizing cultural outings, including a visit to the Estates Theater to experience the captivating opera "Don Giovanni" and an enchanting classical music concert at the Rudolfinum featuring Kirill Gerstein and the Czech Philharmonic

Chamber Orchestra. Additionally, we explored the historic [Prague Castle](#) with our researchers and their families, guided by Professor Alena Drebitková Malá from the Department of Languages. In a delightful excursion, a group of international researchers and their families visited [the Steiner & Kovarik Chocolate Factory](#). This unique experience allowed participants to immerse themselves in the art of chocolate craftsmanship, creating their own personalized chocolates to savor and enjoy.

Educational Seminars: To address the specific needs of our international scholars, we organized informative seminars on topics such as [the Czech healthcare system](#) and [taxation in the Czech Republic](#). Led by specialists from the Integration Centre Prague and certified tax advisor Kateřina Hružová, these seminars provided invaluable insights and practical knowledge to empower our community.

 [The Easter Party](#) was a highlight of the spring. It was filled with Easter festivities and delicious Easter treats including Mazanec, Beránek and Velikonoční nádivka. Our Easter egg decorating station, the gingerbread decoration and crafting Easter sticks brought out the inner artist in all of us!



The Welcome Centre is here to make your life in the Czech Republic more comfortable and you can count on our help for any support with logistical issues or tips on life in Prague and many other services.

We are looking forward to seeing you in one of our many events!

All the best from Mirka, Martina, Alena and Ranjodh

CZU WELCOME CENTRE UPCOMING EVENTS



A TOUR OF THE PRAGUE DISTRICTS STRAHOV, HRADČANY AND THE NEW WORLD

We are thrilled to invite you for an unforgettable city tour of the Prague districts **Strahov, Hradčany and Nový Svět (New World) in Prague**, a neighborhood where time stands still. This tour promises to be an immersive journey through history, culture, and architectural wonders. We will start the tour at the ambassador district Strahov, continue through the historical district Hradčany and finish the tour in Nový svět.

Cost: Sponsored by the Welcome Centre

When: Saturday, April 6th

Where: 10:00 at the [tram stop Pohořelec](#)



A WEEKEND TRIP TO DOLNÍ MORAVA AND JESENÍKY

Imagine wandering through the picturesque Jeseníky mountains, home to not just any bridge, **but THE longest suspension bridge in the entire world!*** And that's just the beginning.

Join us for a weekend getaway packed with unforgettable experiences. We'll conquer **the highest peak of Jeseníky**, explore the historic spa city of **Karlova Studánka**, and delve into the fascinating world of Czech history at the only remaining historical paper factory in the country.

*An alternative program will be prepared for those who prefer to see the bridge only from a distance 😊

May/June 2024

We will send more information soon with exact dates!



Welcome Centre
for International Scholars

Czech Cultural Customs

Tuesday, 14th May



SEMINAR ON THE CZECH CULTURAL CUSTOMS

Understanding the Czech culture and customs is integral to navigating life here smoothly. In cooperation with the Integration Centre Prague, we are organizing a seminar focusing on common customs in different settings. The seminar will be led by Ms. Roksolana Fedorenko, who you may remember from the previous seminar on healthcare.

The seminar will cover following topics:

- **Restaurant:** *eating habits, lunch menu, tips*
- **Ecology:** *waste sorting, collection yards, dustbins*
- **Sports, hobby:** *hiking, mushroom picking, rafting, cross-country skiing, pets*
- **Bad habits:** *drugs, smoking, gambling*
- **Holidays:** *celebrations, gifts, folk traditions*
- **Etiquette:** *personal space, shaking hands, blowing your nose, escalators*
- **Authorities:** *deadlines, customs, corporate culture*

Cost: FREE

When: 16:30, 14th May 2024

Where: TBC

Sign-up here: <https://forms.office.com/e/U1uYBgBHfJ>

LANGUAGE CAFÉ



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The Language Café is about being able to simply communicate in Czech, we prepare basic conversation topics for real beginners for your daily life. You can come and join us for a fun time together even if you are not taking the Czech language courses and it is your first encounter with the language, **there is no need to sign up**. It will be a good occasion to get to know other people and maybe even find a buddy to exchange other languages of interest.

The Language Café will be held on Thursday 11th April, from 12:00 in the PEF Cafeteria!

The topic will be transportation in the Czech Republic

EVENTS IN PRAGUE



PRAGUE SPRING

For more than 75 years the **Prague Spring International Music Festival** has ranked among the top cultural events in the Czech Republic. This presentation of **the world's best musicians, symphony orchestras and chamber music** ensembles is somewhat of a phenomenon as it has survived the political upheavals and dramatic cultural changes in the seven decades of its existence.

Concerts and performances held within the festival are staged throughout the whole of Prague, so apart from excellent music presentations you can relish the historical backdrops of monasteries, churches and museums.

WHEN: 12th May 2024 - 3rd June 2024

MORE INFORMATION: <https://festival.cz/en/koncerty/>

LEGAL OBLIGATIONS IN THE CZECH REPUBLIC

We would like to ask you to check the following documents in order to avoid any violation of Czech legal obligations:

- Your country's passport expiration date
- The residence permit card validity

ATTENTION

! If you have a valid residence permit card and your purpose of stay will change (e.g. your employee contract or amendment to your employee contract will be terminated earlier), the date on the residence card is no longer valid and the stay is also terminated !

If you need any assistance with visas or your legal stay in the Czech Republic, please contact directly Ms. Mirka Perst at perst@rektorat.czu.cz

RESOURCES FOR KIDS

In order to support the integration of your kids, we would like to recommend you following organizations and resources. The organizations host various activities for children mostly free of charge or courses for reasonable price.

Center for Integration of Foreigners

<https://www.cicops.cz/en/about-us/55-projects/current-projects>

Regular open clubs offer a space for communication in Czech on various topics.

META

<https://meta-ops.eu>

Also, please contact META – a support organization. They specialize in supporting children in their Czech learning. They are going to start Czech language courses for small children over the summer so it would be good if you would contact them. They also organize all kinds of activities where your kid can learn

InBAZE

<https://inbaze.cz/en/one-day-event/>

Bc. Timur Kireev - the program coordinator for younger children, phone: (+420) 704 929 828, e-mail: kireev@inbaze.cz

DDM Suchdol

<https://www.ddmsuchdol.cz/>

DDM is a youth center that organizes many activities in Suchdol and some courses for kids.

There is also a public library in Suchdol where you can borrow books. It is located at the Suchdol's Elementary School: <http://knihovna.praha-suchdol.cz/kontakt.html>

You can visit any bookstore or a public library, they will be able to recommend you various titles. The most famous is Josef Lada's pictures with short text.

Other sources:

Kids can watch Czech TV channels for kids, the most known is ČT D.

<https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/>

Nice short fairytales are for example:

Byla jednou koťata <https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/byla-jednou-kotata>

Prasátko Pepa <https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/prasatko-peppa>

Káťa a Škubánek <https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/kata-a-skubanek>

Madla a Ťap <https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/madla-a-tap>

Méd'ové na cestách <https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/medove-na-cestach>

Josef Lada – O Mikešovi <https://decko.ceskatelevize.cz/o-mikesovi>

Another source of learning Czech is this workbook:

https://www.inkluzivniskola.cz/sites/default/files/uploaded/nectunepisu_ucim_se_cesky.pdf

During April and May, registrations for elementary and kindergarten are taking place. If you need assistance with registration, please let us know at welcome.centre@czu.cz.

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Our mailing address is:

welcome.centre@czu.cz

Disclaimer:

The Welcome Center will be pleased to provide advice and support in all non-academic issues. Please note, however, that you will have to make the final decision in all issues discussed and the Welcome Center and its staff cannot take any responsibility or assume liability for these decisions. You are receiving this newsletter because you are signed up for our mailing list. ***Unsubscribe from the list*** by simply sending us an e-mail to welcome.centre@czu.cz. If this newsletter was forwarded to you by a friend, you can subscribe to our mailing list also via welcome.centre@czu.cz.

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