

Visit to library in Zhodino -

Monday 4th August

Most of the group met at the Library with some Belarussian Guides and parents of the younger children and were welcomed by Anya, the leader of the Brownie Age girls in ABG (Association of Belarussian guides) called BIRDS. There was a small exhibition in the library showing photos and items from different decades. (Picture 1) The one from 1950s showed a pile of newspapers which you could swap for a book.



Anya had said she was very surprised that none of the children had recognised a vacuum cleaner from the 50s, it was a cylinder one.

Anya had, with Mama Lusya's help, secured the use of a room in the library every Saturday afternoon. Approximately 70 children attend the library, making up 3 sections – 30 of them Birds covering their Programme, some just to share the activities and listen to stories and some whose parents wanted them to learn English. Anya had asked me in 2017 if I knew about the stories of the World-Famous Paddington Bear, and books in English were sent out to her and Paddington himself was taken out in the summer of 2018. They have several of his adventures in the library. The children learn English by drawing pictures of the bear and learning the names of his clothes and body parts. It encourages children to the library as well. There is an “English” table with a flag, Paddington books in English and Belarussian, an English Calendar with pictures and of course Paddington (pic 2). They are called The Paddington Bear Club and have a Facebook site specially for them.

Anya introduced a presentation on the activities of ABG on the large TV screen (pic 3). This was followed by 2 sisters playing a short piece each on the piano, dressed very prettily and playing quite confidently (pic 4,5).

I was asked to explain about our link and “conducted” a song called The Fish Song which everyone could join in with.

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At the end of the Presentation I did an interview for the local paper – Katya of course being the interpreter – see further Trefoil news for the article and its translation!

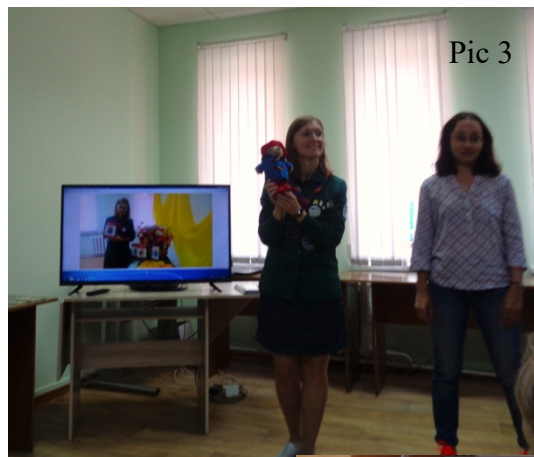
Robbie Hill: August 2019



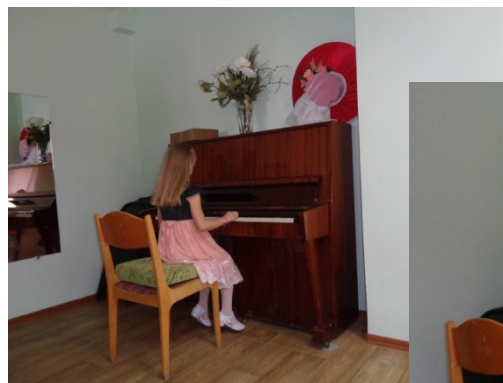
Pic 1



Pic 2



Pic 3



Pic 4 & 5

