



Dear Martin,

You have successfully finished the II. term of the 1st grade. You've learnt a lot of new things working alone or with your friends. You've been using wide range of Montessori materials and facing many new challenges to develop your skills further.

You have shown interest in books during the lessons, and your reading skills are good. We will continue working on your fluency and reading comprehension next year. You have very nice handwriting and you know how to write all the letters of the alphabet. You just need to work on its size to make it fit the lines. You have the ability to share your experience, tell stories, and listen to the others at the morning circles. You are able to learn a short poem or rhyme, and build a sentence using concrete words or pictures. You've been also working with the meaning of words, word composition and you can tell the types of sentences. Next year, we will study the sentence structure and its types in more depth.

During the II. term, you participated in various projects in cultural studies: you were discovering the planet Earth, the Czech Republic, Prague and its sights. You've studied the life of people and animals in Europe, Asia, South America, and Antarctica. You've prepared remarkable and original presentations on the countries of these continents (especially the one on Argentina), which you presented at the morning circle. You know how to create maps of the continents and sort the cards with flags, local fauna and flora, and further peculiarities according to a given region. You were introduced to the Great Lessons on the Coming of Human Beings and the Origins of Writing. Thanks to various movies and written stories you've visited many places on earth. Together with your classmates you "set off" on a trip to China and Tibet, "walked" the Earth with early humans, and "went" on an expedition to discover the secrets of the Inca culture and today's South American culture. You've deepened your knowledge in the area of health, healthy lifestyles, and human body. You know what to do in life-threatening situations. You visited "the Theatre of Physics" where you saw many interesting experiments and learnt to understand the processes behind them.

Over the past year we've worked with all three of the four operations, static and dynamic addition and subtraction, as well as single digit multiplication. It will be important for you to continue practicing fast memorization facts for these operations. Your English and Czech terminology for the numbers in math is mastered between 0 and 1,000 and has improved even with higher numbers. You've also been exposed to a small portion of geometry, including the triangle drawer, circle drawer as well as the geometric solids. Fractions were introduced this year and you've started to work with it in the last couple of months of school. Next year we will begin the fourth operation, division. We will also begin working with two-digit multiplication and using more advanced materials adding to your skills from this year.

Your improvements in English have been tremendous over the year. I believe your fluency in English has helped with your fluidity in reading. You're now reading very quickly and pronouncing words very clearly. We've been working a lot over the past month with sight words, and it is clear from your reading that these words have been helpful. The pink series was completely mastered, you've done a lot of work with the blue series, the consonant blends over the year. Next year, we'll be focusing on the green series which is vowel blends as well as work with grammar, starting with the nouns,



articles and adjectives now that your reading is at an advanced level. You've also improved with your confidence in spelling over the course of the year. Overall, your progress in English has been excellent and it will continue to improve.

You've learnt to sing different songs with guitar accompaniment. You've been reciting simple poems and rhymes from the book "We read to and with the children" to the rhythm of a certain melody. You did so with the rhymes by Karel Šiktanc, Jaroslav Nohavica, Jan Vodňanský and others. You can clap a rhythm to a melody and use simple Orff instruments. You can sing songs by Jaroslav Nohavica or Petr Skoumal, whose performance we had the chance to see in a theatre. We were listening to the famous compositions by Händel, Beethoven, Mozart, Verdi, and Smetana in the Prague Conservatoire hall. There, we also learnt some basic facts about their lives, got to know the basics of choral singing, and learnt the song "*Proč bychom se netěšili*" (Let's Rejoice and Be Merry), which we then sang with the choirs present.

In PE classes you've participated in many different movement activities: you've been developing specific physical skills such as speed, stamina, agility; and you've learnt how to play in a team. You've learnt some new games and you know their rules in Czech and English.

Martin, we are very happy to have had the opportunity to work with you this year. We wish you all the best and hope you will enjoy coming to the school next year as well.

Dear Maria,

That was quick, wasn't it? What? Well, the school year in our class! When you look back, I'm sure you will see plenty of tasks completed, lessons learnt and experiences gained. You can now read and understand even more challenging texts in varied areas. You can answer questions about the text, and, with a little help, reproduce the text orally and written. You express yourself in whole sentences, using rich vocabulary. We will continue working on your presentation skills, particularly your fluency and volume. You have mastered all cursive lower and upper case letters. You are very good at copying, transcribing and dictation. We will continue with dictation and Czech spelling. You went through an extensive range of materials in Czech grammar. You know the rules for using ů/ů and using y/i after hard and soft consonants and can apply them (with occasional reminders). You grasped the rule for paired consonants quite easily. You capitalize words at the beginning of a sentence and know the rules for punctuating the end of the sentence. You know a lot about types of sentences. Over the year, you have been practicing with antonyms, synonyms, homonyms, superordinate and subordinate words. You know the Czech rules for word order, having gone through the word order material quickly and effortlessly. You capitalize geographical names with a little assistance. You have no difficulties in writing proper nouns names. You have started to work with the listed words for the letter "b", and with reminders, you know all the parts of speech. With a little guidance, you can characterize nouns, adjectives, verbs. You are able to explain and describe



literary terms in part. You successfully wrote your first compositions this year. It's important to remember to complete whatever project you choose to begin.

You know your addition and subtraction math facts up to 20, and some even further by memory. You use the bead frame for six- and seven-digit numbers, and you can count up to a million. You can also perform three-digit by one-digit multiplication on the Bead Frame. You have begun working with the same operations on the Checkerboard. With a little help you know the multiplication facts for single-digit numbers up to 10. You multiply up to 100 from your memory. It is important that you continue practicing your memorization facts. You have studied all geometric solids (with a curved as well as flat surface). You successfully learned the triangles according to their sides and angles. You also constructed triangles to create different shapes. Your work has been smooth and fast. You have been working with fractions and learning fraction addition. You have mastered the fractions up to  $\frac{1}{10}$  making one whole.

Maria, your overall work has remained strong. In English in the second half of the year we have worked on prefixes, suffixes, homonyms, capitalization, punctuation, using a dictionary and much more. You have memorized poems and learned about literary styles. You are creative in storytelling and I would love to see you dive more into writing your ideas, and really into every aspect of English. In cultural studies, your projects have been consistently well thought-out, thoroughly researched and beautifully executed. You practiced geography on all the continents and are interested in how others live. You are usually a motivated worker with rich ideas and you enjoy sharing your knowledge and skills with others. It is lovely to have you in class.

When discovering and exploring planet Earth, you moved from North America to the Arctic and Antarctica. You studied the lives of local people: their work, migration patterns, types of homes, etc. Do you remember the Inuit? You prepared impressive presentations, such as the one in which you became an Inuit yourself. You studied the countries of South America and their capitals. You were fully engaged by an extensive material on Europe, and it was not easy to get you to choose a different project. You studied the human body with enthusiasm. Again, please remember to complete your tasks within a reasonable time period. You have experienced the Third Great Lesson and engaged yourself with the Origins of Humans. We will continue studying Human Evolution. You know what your body needs to function well: which things are healthy, less healthy, and harmful or unnecessary for it. You can build a food pyramid. You can name the parts of a seed and describe how a seed grows into a plant. You can also explain what a plant needs to stay alive, what kinds of plants there are, and the parts of the plant. You know the water cycle very well. You have studied Prague sights, and explored the Prague Castle. You know the life cycle of a butterfly. Next year, we are going to explore the areas of botany, geography, history and zoology in more depth.

In art you have learnt many techniques including calligraphy, color mixing, detailed copying, illustration and more. You created a precise model of the human internal organs. You have learnt to sew, including the running stitch, backstitch and cross-stitch. With a little help you know how to plant a small tree and grow a flower. You have learnt a lot of new movement games at the School in Nature and in the school garden.