



# VIVAT, GYMNASIUM!

September-October 2020

## Mysterious Autumn!



Autumn is the most mysterious season of the year. It comes quietly and little by little. An autumn wind blow and light coolness have been wrapping up the Earth since the end of August. Everything has become really mystic since the first September day. Like an artist, this season paints nature into bright colours.

Different people associate autumn with different things. For some of them, it is coming cold, nasty weather and annoying rain. For others, autumn is associated with the warm light of the setting sun, cozy home evenings and carpets of bright leaves in the parks. In any case, autumn is an extraordinary phenomenon. All the thoughts are flying to the South. It's so quiet, empty and untidy in our heads that it is difficult to find suitable words to profess our love for autumn. This admiration for autumn have shared many outstanding people. Their inspirational quotes will help us to float in autumn blue skies and falling leaves.

autumns.” Dodinsky, the author of the book “In the Garden of the Thoughts” exclaimed: “I hope I can be the autumn leaf who looked at the sky and lived. And when it was time to leave, gracefully it knew life was a gift.”



Albert Camus, a French - Algerian philosopher and journalist, noticed: “Autumn is a second spring when every leaf is a flower.”

Elizabeth Lawrence, an American actress, stressed: “Everyone must take time to sit and watch the leaves turn.”

Gorgeous Autumn! I hope I've convinced you that there are so many reasons for loving this season and diving into the spirit of it.



George Eliot, an English writer, once said: “Delicious autumn! My very soul is wedded to it, and if I were a bird, I would fly about the Earth seeking the successive



Olga Khatsuck,  
Form 10 “Z”

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## Touching Our History



The routes of many famous Belarusians went through this ancient village - Gudovichy which is situated in a picturesque place in Mosty district. Now this village is known not only for its beauty, hospitable and industrial people but also for its Literary and Local History Museum

On October 24<sup>th</sup> our second-formers were lucky to visit this wonderful museum. The tour was dedicated to the year of the Native Land in the Republic of Belarus. It was really informative and amazing.

The pupils got to know that the museum was first founded as a school museum in 1968 by the teacher A. M. Belokoz. Nowadays its permanent exposition consists of 10 halls. The senior pupils visited a hut where peasants used to live. The pride of the museum is its collection of articles made in the technology of double weaving (the late 19th - 20th centuries). Our pupils took part in the animated show "Visiting Symon and Lya-vonikha!".

They played folk games, guessed some riddles, danced and sang songs. The most active participants were given sweet prizes. Besides, our children got acquainted with the way of life of our ancestors. They were told about our traditions and customs. The young visitors were very attentive during the excursion and listened to each word of the guide with great interest. They asked a lot of questions and examined some of the exhibits with great curiosity.



At the end of the excursion everyone bought personalized bookmarks for books so as to remember this hospitable place and get more positive emotions.

No doubt, the tour made an unforgettable impression on our second formers as the whole excursion was in the Belarusian language and the guide spoke it perfectly. Our pupils made sure how beautiful and melodious our native language is.



*Polina Povaibo,  
Form 8 "M"*



### In the Fascinating Atmosphere of Languages.

It goes without saying that knowledge of foreign languages is a necessity nowadays. It helps us to improve the quality of our life and broaden our outlook. By the way, four foreign languages are taught in our Gymnasium. Our experienced teachers encourage us to master these languages. They use different methods to motivate us and arouse our curiosity. One of them is the week of foreign languages which is traditionally held in our school at the end of September.



The week started on 23 September this year. The motto of the first day was "Start your day with positive". All the students were greeted in the hall and presented with some wise sayings which helped them to tune in to a good mood. Their ears were pleased with wonderful melodies of English songs. Besides, they were able to admire some picturesque paintings and drawings on the topic "China through my eyes" in the hall. What's more, our students could enrich their knowledge about China listening to the reports "China-Belarus: the dialogue of cultures" made by the best students of Class Confucius.



The motto of the next day was "Language is a road map of the culture". All our breaks were filled with fascinating pieces of music. During this day our first-formers got acquainted with Chinese

tea ceremony, the four-formers took part in the game "Sea voyage". All the other days were also full of interesting events. The five-formers took part in the concert "The World of talents", the six-formers participated in "The Music Ring", our nine-formers enthusiastically sang songs on our "Karaoke Bar".



Friday, 27 September proved the idea that "different language is different vision of life". Our senior-formers got to know many unusual facts about our planet and shared their thoughts in the compositions "What can I do to protect the environment".

Saturday gathered the eight-formers. They participated in the game "Travelling is Fun". One famous person said: "The world is a book and those who do not travel, read only one page". Our students convinced themselves once again that travelling and the knowledge of foreign languages could make their life meaningful and exciting.

*Nadezhda Matusevich,  
Form 8 "M"*



### Halloween



Halloween is always celebrated on 31 October. On that night, many people will look like frightening creatures such as vampires or ghosts. They do this with the help of special clothing and face paint.

Halloween traditions developed from Celtic beliefs in ancient Britain. The Celts believed that spirits of the dead would return to their homes on October the thirty-first, the day of the autumn feast. They built huge fires to frighten away evil spirits that night.



Now Halloween activities include trick-or-treating, attending Halloween costume parties, carving pumpkins into jack-o'-lanterns, lighting bonfires, apple bobbing, divination games, playing pranks, visiting haunted attractions, telling scary stories, as well as watching horror films.

Historians say many of Halloween traditions of today developed from those of ancient times. They say that wearing a mask to hide a person's face is similar to the way ancient villagers covered their faces to make evil spirits go away.

On Halloween night, children put on masks and other clothing. They go from

home to home shouting "Trick or treat"! If the people in the homes do not give them a treat, the children may play a trick on them.



Some adults put on costumes and attend Halloween parties. They also decorate their homes. They might clean out the insides of pumpkins and cut funny faces on the surface. Then, they place a burning candle inside. Some hang fake bats, spider webs and other things around the home.

Some Christians eat vegetarian foods on this vigil day, including potato pancakes, candy apples and soul cakes. These cakes are given out to soulers (mainly consisting of children and the poor) who go from door to door during Halloween.



Anastasia Tarazevich,  
Form 9 "Z"



## Mother's Day in Belarus



Motherhood is the most sacred mission on Earth. It fills you with happiness to give birth to a new life and to see that you will live on in your children and grandchildren. This is a real feat and a woman does it with great love, patience and tenderness, devoting her whole life to children. That's why many countries have a special holiday for Mothers to express the deepest appreciation for their work, care and love.

Mother's Day is celebrated in most countries of the world, although its date varies from country to country, depending on its origin. Belarusians celebrate the holiday dedicated to mothers on 14 October.



There was no such holiday like Mother's Day in the Soviet Union; mothers received congratulations on 8 March (International Women's Day) instead. After the dissolution of the USSR, many former Soviet Republics started to celebrate Mother's Day in addition to International Women's Day. The Day of 14 October was offi-

cially designated as Mother's Day in Belarus in 1996. The date of 14 October was chosen because it coincides with the Intercession of the Theotokos (the Protection of the Mother of God or the Veil of Our Lady) - a feast of the Mother of God celebrated in the Eastern Orthodox Church.

Although Mother's Day is a working holiday, it is widely celebrated throughout the country. Warm and sincere words are addressed to the closest person to everyone. Traditionally, on the eve of this holiday, women who gave birth and raised more than five children are awarded the Order of Mother. Special words of gratitude are said to them. As a spiritually strong and independent nation is born only in the families where parents teach their children by their example to respect the elderly, to be proud of the history and achievements of their country and to love their native land.

14 October is marked with official ceremonies aimed at recognizing the significant role mothers play in Belarusian society. Children, in their turn, congratulate their mothers on the holiday, giving them handmade gifts and cards. They want to thank their mothers and show their love to the dearest people in the world.



*Arina Cherviack,  
Form 8 "Z"*



## What Can We Do to Make Our Planet Cleaner



### Mein persönlicher Beitrag zum Umweltschutz



«Die Natur schützen heißt die Heimat schützen». Diese Worte vom russischen Schriftsteller und Naturforscher Michail Prischwin sind heute besonders aktuell. Die ökologische Situation auf der Erde ist jetzt kompliziert. Die Pflanzen- und Tierwelt brauchen unsere Hilfe. Man muss die kranken Wälder retten, neue Bäume pflanzen, Tiere im Winter füttern und pflegen. Es ist wichtig, den Wald zu schützen, weil er für die Sauberkeit der Luft sorgt und ein Zuhause für viele Tiere ist. Die Luft und das Wasser der Erde sind jetzt auch in Gefahr. Viele Betriebe und Autos verschmutzen die Atmosphäre durch Giftstoffe und Abgasen. In den Flüssen und Meeren wird das Wasser immer schmutziger, was zum Untergang vieler Lebewesen führt. Die Menschen sollen verstehen, dass sie die Schönheit der Umwelt nicht nur für sich selbst, sondern auch für kommende Generationen bewahren müssen. Es gibt viele Möglichkeiten, umweltfreundlich zu handeln. Ich verwenden Einkaufstaschen statt Plastiktüten, benutze keine Wegwerfartikel wie z. B. Plastikteller, kaufe Getränke prinzipiell in Mehrwegflaschen, kompostiere Küchen- und Gartenabfälle zu Gartenerde, lasse Licht nicht unnötig brennen, gebe Altpapier und Textilien in spezielle Punkte ab. Müll-Lärmvermeidung, Altpapiersammeln und Pflanzenschutz – aus diesen Kleinigkeiten ergibt sich der Beitrag

zur Schonung der Umwelt.

*Margarita Popeluschko  
Klasse 10 "F"*

### Wie ich die Natur bewahre

Unser Land sowie andere Staaten erarbeiten gefahrlose Technologien, um die Erde für die späteren Generationen zu erhalten. Aber Umweltschutz und Umweltpolitik können nur dann erfolgreich sein, wenn sich jeder Mensch so verhält, dass er die Welt nicht weiter belastet, sondern sie schützt. Hier gibt es viele Möglichkeiten, und zwar



im Straßenverkehr, beim Einkauf, zu Hause. Jeder von uns soll für Sauberkeit nicht nur in eigener Wohnung sorgen, sondern in den

Straßen und Höfen, wo ständig Müllberge wachsen.

Im Wald wird oft Feuer angezündet und dadurch entstehen schreckliche Brände. Es ist verboten, den Waldboden mit Öl und Benzin von den Autos zu verschmutzen. Nach dem Picknick ist kein Abfall und Müll liegen zu lassen, weil sie sowohl die Pflanzen stören, als auch unser Trinkwasser vergiften. Und wenn wir alle die Natur nicht schützen würden, dann gäbe es bestimmt eine Umweltkatastrophe.

Ich versuche, die Natur zu bewahren.

1. Gehe ich mit Freunden auf einem Picknick im Wald, dann unbedingt nehme Müll mit sich.
2. Am Morgen und am Abend, wenn ich mir die Zähne putze, lasse ich den Wasserhahn nicht laufen.
3. Auf der Straße werfe ich Müll nur in die Urne.
4. Mache Futterhäuschen für die Vögel.
5. Ich züchte Lagerfeuer im Wald nicht.

*Maria Pylik,  
Klasse 7 "Z"*

### How I Can Help the Environment

Some bloggers on Instagram practise and share the theory that "what we have in our mind the same we have around us". It means everything that surrounds us on the domestic level, the way our goods are laid on the surfaces we touch and interact with everyday in our bedroom, our working place influences our mood behaviour and mind. I am sure that each of us can recollect our rooms being a store of clothes lying on the bed or desks cluttered with papers and pens... It can be compared to the terminal of waste after a short/long-term exploitation of these things.



As for me, when a small girl I was always taught by my mother how important it is to make the space around us neat and tidy. That is why we try to follow this rule in our family. We separate our garbage into three sections: plastic, paper and mixed garbage. Each time we throw a bottle into a plastic container we make sure that we have washed all the food remains out of it and folded it compactly in order to minimize the space it takes up in the bag.

Every now and then people buy and update their goods. Whether they do it because the kettle brews "milk" tea or the washing machine colours everything red, their needs are all met in the store. The pleasure from

the purchase and later comfort in usage is a worthwhile reason for getting new items. However, as soon as a new sparkling snow-white package (of the vacuum cleaner) catches our sight, the thought of recycling the older one doesn't always come into our minds.

Fortunately, today people are getting more responsible and aware of recycling even bulky rubbish. We know that it can be taken into collection points and we even



can get some money for it. Each time big purchases are made in my family, the older things always go to the nearest collection point.

People were, are and will always be buying and using new things. And there is nothing terrible in it. On the contrary, we are consumers and it's natural. The main thing we have to do is to be respectful and loyal to the world around us and remember that it is the only one we have.



*Polina Besedina,  
Form 11 'F'*



## Jokes about autumn

