

THE FORESTRY TECHNICAL COLLEGE PIATRA-NEAMȚ
67, Ștefan cel Mare street, Piatra-Neamț



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When asked what their favourite season is, people give mixed answers: some prefer winter because they have the opportunity to practise various sports. Some others would answer summer because it is the time for holidays.

Autumn and spring are also favoured for being a time of bounty or a time of blossoming trees and the return of migrating birds.

In this issue of our school magazine, you will have the possibility to find out about various spring traditions and celebrations,

among which the most important is the Easter Celebration.

There is also a large article about unique and spectacular trees all over the world, some of them being extremely exotic.

The Students' Corner offers our collaborating students the chance to answer the questions: "What is your favourite season?" and "What is your favourite holiday destination?"

Star's Editorial Team



Let's Celebrate Spring

It's time for Spring

Before spring was called spring, it was called Lent in Old English. Starting in the 14th century, that time of year was called “springing time”—a reference to plants “springing” from the ground. In the 15th century this got shortened to “spring-time”, and then further shortened in the 16th century to just “spring.”



The word “season” in this context comes from the Old French “seison”, meaning “planting”. This in turn came from the Latin “sationem” meaning “sowing”. Spring is often associated with rebirth, renewal and re-growth.

Many trees, flowers, plants and bulbs begin to grow during spring because of ample availability of water, light, warmth and soil.

The first spring flowers are typically dandelions, daffodils, lilacs, lilies, iris and tulips to name a few.

For the Japanese, the opening of the cherry blossom, Japan’s national flower, in March or April signals the start of spring.



Many early peoples celebrated spring for the basic reason that their food supplies would soon be restored.

Holidays that occur in spring include Easter, Passover, April Fool’s Day, Earth Day, Arbour Day, Mother’s Day, and Holi (festival of colours in India). It is also probably no coincidence that early Egyptians built the Great Sphinx so that it points directly toward the

rising Sun on the day of the vernal
equinox.

The most important celebration of
spring is Easter.

Let's learn about EASTER

In Christian countries Easter is
celebrated as the religious holiday
marking the resurrection of Jesus
Christ, the Son of God.

Easter is a time of springtime
festivals.

No one is 100% sure where we get the
English word 'Easter' from! In pretty
much every other European language,
the word for the festival of Easter comes
from a variation on the word 'Passover'
(Pesach - in Hebrew or Πάσχα in
Greek).

The word Easter most likely comes from
the Anglo Saxon month 'Eostremonath'
which was about the time of year we
now call April, when the Christian
festival was held. The month seems to be
named after a German goddess 'Eostre'
or 'Ostara'. But the only reference to this
name is from the early historian Bede in

725 AD. And we're not 100% sure he was
accurate! But having the festival named
after the month it took place in seems to
make sense.

Easter Symbols

Have you ever wondered how classic
Easter symbols came to be associated
with the holiday?

Every symbol of Easter has its own
significance, if one symbolizes purity, the
other represents new life.

Easter eggs are among the most
prominent symbols of Easter that signify
fertility. During the Easter week,
competitions are held on Easter egg
painting.

The Easter bunny distributing colourful
eggs is one of the most popular symbols
of Easter. Easter bunny owes its origin
to the Anglo Saxon goddess called
Eostre, who was always seen with her
bunny.

Easter Lilies: Easter flower, Lily
signifies purity and therefore it is also
associated with Mother Mary. To glorify
the resurrection of Lord Jesus, the

churches are beautified with flower vases
stocked with gorgeous white lilies.

The Lamb - The symbol of the lamb is
strongly rooted in Christian belief. One
of the most important symbols of Easter,
the lamb signifies the sacrifice of Jesus
Christ.

Easter Parades have been a part of
tradition since mid-17th century. It was
initiated by the elite class of the society
who would stroll around the streets
together in new attires and bonnets after
attending Easter service in the local
churches. New York City was one of the
first cities in America to witness Easter
Parade.

Other symbols include Easter candles
and hot cross buns etc. Easter candles,
especially the Paschal candles are lighted
on the Easter day.

All the symbols of Easter have a
religious significance and convey a social
message.

The different names for Easter.

In many European languages the name Easter
comes from the word Passover.

Pascha in Greek and Latin,

Pasqua in Italian,

Paques in French,

Pascua in Spanish

Paște in Romanian

HAPPY EASTER !

French - Joyeuses Pâques

Spanish - Felices Pascuas

German - Frohe Ostern

Italian - Buona Pasqua

Romanian – Paște Fericit



The Students' Corner

*What is your favourite
season?*

**For me spring is the most
beautiful and pleasant season
because everything comes back to
life after a long and cold winter.
It is the queen of seasons and it*

is considered the favourite season of the poets. All the trees get new clothes in the form of new leaves, flowers start blooming, birds start dancing and singing on the tree branches, the sky becomes clear and cloudless. However my favourite thing about spring is that the flowers bloom and the weather finally turns a little bit warmer. In my opinion, spring inspires me to be more positive. I would like to go on a trip to Japan for the Spring Festival of Sakura (The Cherry Blossom). People drink and eat, having a picnic, bringing home-cooked meals while watching the cherry trees blossoming.



It is said that the origin of this tradition dates back 1,000 years ago when the aristocrats enjoyed

looking at the beautiful cherry trees blossom and writing poems inspired by this tradition.

Ioana Ingrid Lupu -9 A

*My favourite season is spring and here are a few reasons why: the first one is that I was born in spring, then I love that the weather is not too cold and we can start to take care of the environment, cleaning the fields and the orchards.

My favourite type of holiday is going to the mountains a week every year, even if it's in summer.



I like that the air is cleaner, I also like climbing the mountains, even if it's tiring, it's great to see the spectacular view.

Ana Lara Fodor- 9A

**I can't really say that I have a favourite season but I enjoy autumn and its beauty. It's a really aesthetic season and I enjoy its weather.*

About my favourite holiday destination, the only place I can think about right away is New York City. Even though I have never been there. I am fascinated by the beauty this city has. I really want to visit this place someday, especially the Central Park in Manhattan. I fell in love with New York City mostly because I have a friend who lives there and he always talks about how amazing this city is.

Andreea Vinca- 9 A

**My favourite holiday destination
There are many holiday destinations, whether urban , rural or natural; so it's hard to choose one for a trip. But because I like very much urban destinations, I choose to talk about a holiday in*

Tokyo. I have always liked Tokyo, such an enormous city with many tall buildings, shopping streets and natural parks. The plane is the best way to get to Tokyo. A voyage by sea takes a very long time and it is very expensive. Regarding accommodation, there are many hotels, with prices for all your pockets. You have a lot of things to see in terms of



buildings: Saint Luke's Cathedral, Tokyo Metropolitan Government Building, etc. Tokyo offers a wide range of restaurants, hotels, cafes and natural parks, making this city a great holiday destination.

Alexandru Anechitei- XI C

What is the word that is spelled incorrectly in all dictionaries? Answer: Incorrectly



**Favourite seasons? Autumn and spring. I think that these are the most beautiful seasons; even if they are totally different, they are different in a good way. In spring everything comes to life again, the trees are blossoming and the entire nature is green.*

Summer and winter are also beautiful but in summer it is too hot and in winter it is too cold. Favourite places to visit? If I had the chance to travel somewhere, I would choose South Korea not because I listen to this country's music genre (K-Pop) but because I like their culture, traditional clothes and food. A place that I want to visit the most is Jeju Island because I know that there is a museum with teddy bears and that sounds fun to me. I would also like to walk on the bridge over Han river, Regarding traditional Korean costumes, they are very comfy, colourful and made of silk. About the food I can only say that it looks good

and I like the way they prepare it.

Adriana Iordache- 9 A

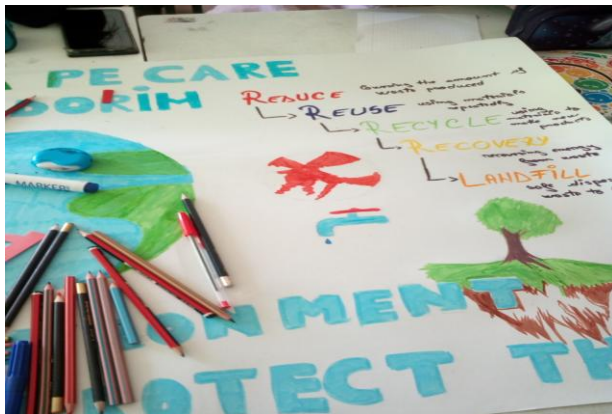
The island Jeju lies in the Korea Strait.



Some students from 9A participated at the National Symposium

“Lumea pe care ne-o dorim” drawing a poster in order to illustrate the importance of protecting the environment. The students who made the poster are:

Ingrid Lupu, Andreea Vinca, Adriana Iordache, Ana Lara Fodor, Alexandra Dănilă



Let's find out about unique and spectacular trees around the world!



Rainbow Eucalyptus Trees

These trees, known as the Eucalyptus Deglupta are located primarily in Tropical Rain forests.

They are more commonly referred to as the 'Rainbow Eucalyptus' due to their array of vibrant colors.

Intense colour and astringent fragrance make the tree unforgettable. Rainbow eucalyptus (*Eucalyptus deglupta*) is the only eucalyptus tree indigenous to the northern hemisphere.

It grows in the Philippines, New Guinea, and Indonesia where it thrives in tropical forests that get a lot of rain.

The tree grows up to 250 feet tall in its native environment.



Beech tree tunnel, Northern Ireland



This tunnel of beech trees in County Antrim,

Northern Ireland, was planted back in the 18th century by a man who was trying to impress people coming up to his home at the end of the road.

Axel Erlandson's art trees

The strangest trees you'll ever see were created by the Swedish-American farmer Axel Erlandson. Erlandson developed methods to get them to form in strange



shapes, but never shared how he did it.

Axel Erlandson was a horticulturist known for shaping trees into unusual forms, a kind of bonsai on a large scale.

He was born in Sweden in 1885 and moved to the United States with his parents as a child, and grew up to become a farmer in California.

According to a biography on Atlas Obscura, Erlandson began shaping trees after observing the natural bonding

process known as inosculation. He used a combination of grafting and bending to guide the trunks into geometric forms.

Joshua Trees



The American Southwest's famous Joshua trees are actually a type of yucca. They were named by Mormon pilgrims who thought they looked like the Biblical character Joshua with his arms outstretched to the sky.

Joshua tree, also known as yucca palm, is an evergreen plant that belongs to the lily family. There are 3 subspecies of Joshua tree that can be found only in Mojave Desert. Joshua tree inhabits desert plains, slopes, ridges and flat-topped hills on the altitude between 1.300 to 5.900 feet. Cutting and destroying of Joshua tree is prohibited by law.

Buttress roots

In many rainforests, trees have had to adapt, or change over time in order to survive. Because the soil in many rainforests can be poor, tree roots often grow near the ground surface in order to get the nutrients it needs to grow. They usually form in nutrient-poor soils, and so do not go particularly deep into the ground, which forces them to bulk up in order to keep the trees from falling down

These roots are known as “buttress roots,” and they can be found on many different species of tree.



Dragon's blood trees, Socotra Island



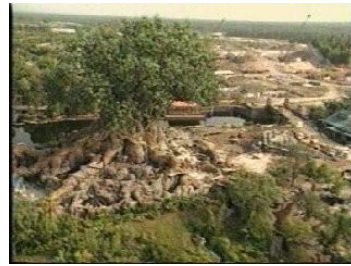
Found on the Socotra Archipelago in the Indian Ocean (part of Yemen's territory), dragon's blood trees get their name from their red sap.

The Socotra dragon tree is an iconic tree with a long history of commercial use. It is known only from the island of Socotra, Yemen, where it lives within remnants of prehistoric 'Dragonsblood' forest on granite mountains and limestone plateaus.

The island of Socotra's 34-million-year separation from mainland Arabia has given rise to a unique flora – 37% of its plant species are found nowhere else. The monsoon season brings these areas cloud, drizzle and sea mists – and the dragon trees' leaves intercept this airborne moisture, channelling it towards root systems shaded by a dense, umbrella-shaped canopy. The dragon tree's strange looks and ancient age belie a species expertly adapted to its environment.



Tree of Life



One of the most mysterious trees in world

is located in the desert outskirts of Bahrain and is simply known as 'The Tree of Life'.

The *Prosopis Cineraria* has extremely deep root systems, which allow it to survive, but its remote location makes it something of a mystery as to how it actually gathers water.

The tree is a major tourist attraction that brings in over 50,000 visitors a year and many locals even believe that it was part of the actual Garden of Eden.



School Jokes in English

What is the longest word in the English language?

SMILES: there is a mile between the first and last letters!"

A: I'm in a big trouble!

B: Why is that?

A: I saw a mouse in my house!

B: Oh, well, all you need to do is use a trap.

A: I don't have one.

B: Well then, buy one.

A: Can't afford one.

B: I can give you mine if you want.

A: That sounds good.

B: All you need to do is just use some cheese in order to make the mouse come to the trap.

A: I don't have any cheese.

B: Okay then, take a piece of bread and put a bit of oil in it and put it in the trap.

A: I don't have oil.

B: Well, then put only a small piece of bread.

A: I don't have bread.

B: Then what is the mouse doing at your house?!



Teacher: Tell me a sentence that starts with an "I".

Student: I is the...

Teacher: Stop! Never put 'is' after an "I". Always put 'am' after an "I".

Student: OK. I am the ninth letter of the alphabet.



Q: What are two things people never eat before breakfast?

A: Lunch and supper.

Teacher: "Nick, what is the past participle of the verb to ring?"

Nick: "What do you think it is, Sir?"

Teacher: "I don't think, I KNOW!"

Nick: "I don't think I know either, Sir!"

PUPIL: "Would you punish me for something I didn't do?"

TEACHER: "Of course not."

PUPIL: "Good, because I haven't done my homework."

The teacher to a student: Conjugate the verb "to walk" in simple present.

The student: I walk. You walk

The teacher interrupts him: Quicker please.

The student: I run. You run ...

Teacher: What are some products of the West Indies?

Student: I don't know.

Teacher: Of course, you do. Where do you get sugar from?

Student: We borrow it from our neighbour.



The teacher speaking to a student said: "Name two pronouns!"

The student who suddenly woke up, said, "Who, me?"

Q: What word of only three syllables contains 26 letters?

A: Alphabet = (26 letters)



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Resource:

www.educationworld.com/a_lesson

<http://www.learn-english-today.com/resources-for-teachers.html>

<http://www.whyeaster.com/customs/festivals.shtml>

<http://iteslj.org/c/jokes-short.html>

EDITORIAL TEAM:

-Alexandru Anechitei - XI C

-The students from IX A grade:

Ingrid-Ioana Lupu, Adriana Iordache,
Andreea Vinca, Ana Lara Fodor,
Alexandra Dănilă

COORDINATING TEACHER:

IRINA VREMIR

