

THE TECHNICAL COLLEGE PIATRA-NEAMT
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P T A P

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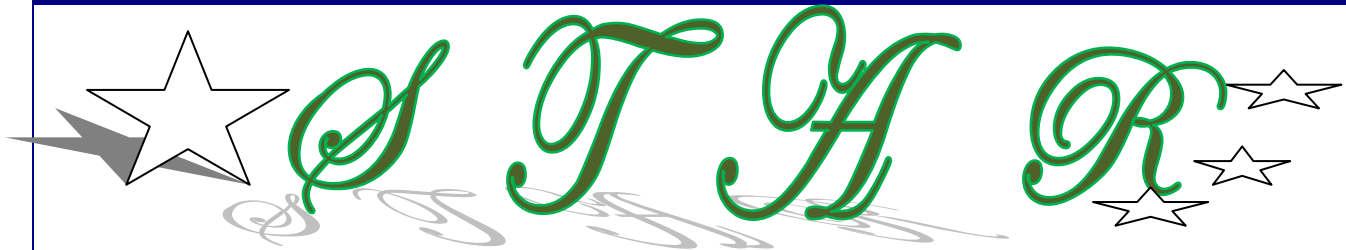
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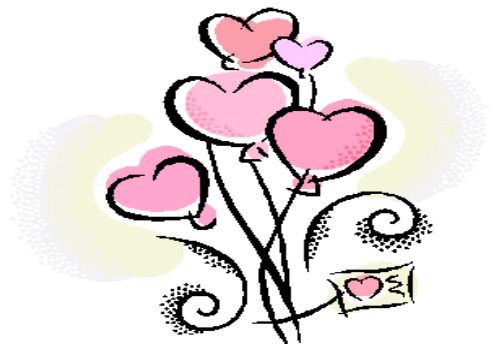
Facts About February

The name comes either from the old-Italian god Februus or else from *februa*, signifying the festivals of purification celebrated in Rome during this month.

In the Georgian calendar, the calendar that most of the world uses, February is the second month of the year. Most of the months have 30 or 31 days in a month but February is shorter. This is because the Roman emperor Augustus took one day from February and added that to August because August was a month that was named after him. February is a very cold month. However, there are sunny days in February that indicates that spring is almost here. Different from the northern half, the southern hemisphere usually enjoys midsummer weather.

Below are some fun facts about

1. The birthstone for February is Amethyst.
2. Two zodiac signs are in this month: Aquarius (January 20 - February 18) and Pisces (February - March 20)
3. The month has 29 days in leap years, when the year number is divisible by four. In common years the month has 28 days.
4. On February 6, 1952, Princess Elizabeth became Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain.
6. February 14 - Valentine's Day



Let's Celebrate Saint Valentine's Day

Every February 14, across the United States and in other places around the world, candy, flowers and gifts are exchanged between loved ones, all in the name of St. Valentine.

Saint Valentine's Day, commonly known as *Valentine's Day*, or the *Feast of Saint Valentine*, is observed on February 14 each year. Today *Valentine's Day* is celebrated in many countries around the world, mostly in the West, although it remains a working day in all of them.

St. Valentine's Day began as a liturgical celebration of one or more early Christian saints named *Valentinus*.

The most popular martyrology associated with *Saint Valentine* was that he was imprisoned for performing weddings for soldiers who were forbidden to marry, and for ministering to Christians, who were persecuted under the Roman Empire; during his imprisonment, he is said to have healed the daughter of his jailer *Asterius* and

before his execution, according to the legendary account, he wrote, "from your Valentine" as a farewell to her.

Today, *Saint Valentine's Day* is an official feast day in the Anglican Communion, as well as in the Lutheran Church.

The Eastern Orthodox Church also celebrates *Saint Valentine's Day*, albeit on July 6th and July 30th, the former date in honour of the Roman presbyter *Saint Valentine*, and the latter date in honour of Hieromartyr *Valentine*, the Bishop of Interamna.

Valentine Symbols

Cupid

Cupid, the winged and mischievous little angel pierces the hearts of his victims with his bows and arrows. The Greeks called him *Eros* whereas to the Romans he was known by the name of *Cupid*, the son of *Venus*.

Cupid is thought to be responsible for people falling in love.

Roses

Roses have always been the subject of great importance and a certain hit with the lovers all around the world. Roses symbolize love, compassion, peace, friendship and romance. They are available in various colours, each in turn signifying a different thing. Red for

passion, Yellow for friendship and White stands for true love and devotion.

Ribbons and frills

Ribbons and trappings are synonymous with love and romance since time immemorial.

These were given to the kings and knights by their beloved ones when they went to battles.

Even to this day the ribbons form an important part of auspicious occasions.

Hearts

Nothing symbolizes love more completely as the heart. And for a romantic person there is no other symbol as important as heart. Heart signifies the life and if you give your heart to someone it means to hand over to her or him one's existence. Heart pierced with arrow forms the most important symbol of Valentine's Day.

Love Birds and Doves

The belief that birds find their mates on this special day still continues and today's world is no exception to it. The blue coloured birds best signify this belief. It is said that lovebirds can't think of life without their mates. Dove on the other hand signifies purity, humbleness and purity and wholesomeness.

Love Knots

The fashion of sending love knots is traced backed to ancient traditions where young women in traditional and households expressed their love and affection via the medium of love knots. These women used to send their love messages to their beloved

one's woven in the knots of a carpet. The concept of love knots continues to exist even to this day.

March

Facts About March

The word "March" comes from the Roman "Martius". This was originally the first month of the Roman calendar and was named after the Roman god of war, Mars. March was the beginning of our calendar year. We changed to the 'New Style' or Gregorian calendar in 1752, and is it only since then when we the year began on 1st January.

Events in March

*Mărțișor in Romania and Moldavia, and Martenitsa in Bulgaria, March 1

*Saint David's Day, (Welsh Holiday) March 1

*International Women's Day, March 8

*Saint Patrick's Day, March 17

*The equinox, named the vernal or spring equinox in the northern hemisphere and the autumnal equinox in the southern hemisphere, occurs on dates varying from March 19 to March 21

*Equinox Earth Day, in the northern hemisphere, occurs on dates varying from March 19 to March 21

The symbol of spring

Mărțișorul



Mărțișor is an old Romanian celebration at the beginning of spring, on March the 1st, which according to old calendar was also considered as the beginning of the new year.

Symbolically, it is correlated to women as a means of life and continuity. The tradition is authentic in Romania, Moldova, and all territories inhabited by Romanians and Aromanians. Alike though not identical customs can be found in Bulgaria (see Martenitsa), while similar ones exist in Albania, Greece and Italy.

The name *Mărțișor* is the diminutive of *marț*, the old folk name for March (*Martie*, in modern Romanian), and thus literally means "little March". It is also the folk name for this month.

Mărțișor, *marț* and *mărțișuș* are all names for the red and white string from which a small decoration is tied, and which is offered by people on the 1st day of March.

The string can also be black and white, or blue and white. Giving this talisman to people is an old custom and it is believed that the one who wears the red and white string will be strong and healthy for the year to come.

It is also a symbol of the coming spring. Usually, women wear it pinned to their clothes for the first 12 days of the month, until other spring celebrations, or until the bloom of certain fruit-trees. In some regions, a gold or silver coin hangs on the string, which is worn around the neck.

The Thracians also used to celebrate the New Year's Eve on the first day of March, a month which took the name of the god Marsyas Silen, the inventor of the pipe, whose cult was related to the land and vegetation. Thracian spring celebrations, connected to fertility and the rebirth of nature, were consecrated to him.

In some areas, Daco-Romanians still celebrate the agrarian New Year in spring, where the first days of March are considered days of a new beginning. Before March 1, women choose one day from the first nine of the month, and judging by the weather on the chosen day, they would know how the new year will be for them.



Let's Celebrate St. Patrick's Day



Saint Patrick's Day or the Feast of Saint Patrick (Irish: *Lá Fhéile Pádraig*, "the Day of the Festival of Patrick") is a cultural and religious holiday celebrated on 17 March. It commemorates Saint Patrick (c. AD 387–461), the patron saint of Ireland.

The day is generally characterised by the attendance of church services, wearing of green attire, public parades and processions, and the lifting of Lent restrictions on eating, and drinking alcohol, which is often proscribed during the rest of the season.

Saint Patrick's Day is a public holiday in the Republic of Ireland, Northern Ireland, Newfoundland and Labrador and Montserrat. It is also widely celebrated by the Irish diaspora, especially in places such as Great Britain, Canada, the United States, Argentina, Australia, and New Zealand.

Wearing of the green

Originally, the colour associated with Saint Patrick was blue. Over the years the colour green and its

association with Saint Patrick's day grew. Green ribbons and shamrocks were worn in celebration of St Patrick's Day as early as the 17th century.

Saint Patrick is said to have used the shamrock, a three-leaved plant, to explain the Holy Trinity to the pagan Irish, and the wearing and display of shamrocks and shamrock-inspired designs have become a ubiquitous feature of the day.

In the 1798 rebellion, to make a political statement, Irish soldiers wore full green uniforms on 17 March in hopes of catching public attention.

The phrase "the wearing of the green", meaning to wear a shamrock on one's clothing, derives from a song of the same name.





STUDENTS' CORNER

Is it important to have a hobby and why?

1. It is important to have a hobby because you will have somebody to share your free time with. A hobby can become a means of entertainment (Florin Aruxandei- X A)

2. We must have a hobby because this is very important for our life. Everybody has something that he/she likes and that thing can be turned into a hobby.

(Andrei-George Olăraşu -X A)

3. It is important to have a hobby for many reasons. First, people have hobbies because they like it and that makes them feel better. It is a way to disconnect from all your problems and thoughts and relax your mind. It is essential to do something that you like in order to eliminate the stress in your life.

(Ancuța Ciobanu -X A)

What is your opinion about the importance of friendship in people's life?

1. Friendship is very important in people's life because some people dislike to be alone. Friendship is one of the best things that make our

life more beautiful. Without friendship life will be very boring.

(Florin Aruxandei- X A)

2. Friendship is important in people's life because it involves respect, love and other virtues which make us be better with each other. Friendship creates a connection between people, it provides us support and it gives us a reason to smile and to believe in a better world.

(Ancuța Ciobanu -X A)

Is there an artist that you admire?

1. I like Țuțu Adrian because he is Romanian and he is admired by a lot of people, Romanian or not. He won the national contest " The Romanians have got talent" and he is successful in his life.

(Andrei-George Olăraşu -X A)

2. I consider that the Romanian people are talented. Carmen Tănase is a great actress with a lot of experience. She has a lot of comic potential and she was very dedicated to her characters; she does her job with love and passion. I like very much this actress and successful woman.

(Ancuța Ciobanu -X A)

Do you enjoy playing computer games?



1. I like playing computer games very much. In my opinion, I like computer games a little too much. I play games because I have fun doing this.
(Andrei-George Olăraşu -X A)

2. I like playing computer games because it is a means of entertainment but computer games can make people get addicted to them.
(Florin Aruxandei- X A)

3. Computer games are a relaxation for me. I don't play computer games every day only occasionally. If I played every day, I would get bored.
(Ancuța Ciobanu -X A)

What do you like about the town of Piatra-Neamț?

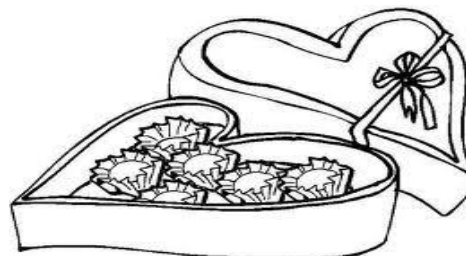
1. Piatra-Neamț is for me the town where I live. It is beautiful, I like the fresh air and the mountains. These things make me love this town.
(Ancuța Ciobanu -X A)

2. I like the history and the monuments. We have beautiful places

and friendly people and I respect this very much.

(Andrei-George Olăraşu -X A)

CHOCOLATE



Hello everyone! Let's talk about chocolate. Shall we? I know that everybody loves it. True?

Chocolate first came from Central America. Did you know that the word chocolate comes from the Aztec language and it is the only word we use regularly in English? The Aztecs made a bitter drink called Xocoatl, from cocoa beans mixed with cold water, spices and cornmeal. The world's largest chocolate model was a 10m by 5m representation of the Olympic Centre of Barcelona.

Did you know all these things until now? I just like to add one more thing about chocolate: it is very good and healthy but I am warning you: do not eat more chocolate at once because you'll feel very uncomfortable. Kiss you all! Bye!

Talida-Georgiana Onu- XII A

Saint Patrick's Day Word Search

V G D H V C T Z K Q W P V A R
X Z L U S I F O S Y O C Q D Q
Y C E Q B P A N O T B N B R Z
L E P E H L A H O Q N J V A K
N L R U K K I F S E I X C C O
A T E J E C G N E I A M I L I
N I C S X O I R P Y R R T U D
F C H M L N G R V R T I N A S
A A A D J S I H E A H E I N N
N T U X Z M D F P M W P A V L
N D N E G E L W N B I U S U P
N T J W W K L Q U C H L Y U P
J B Q A P F Z O K U N Q O J X
I W I N B I R E L A N D G S Y
J D C K C O R M A H S Y B Z X



CELTIC	DUBLIN	GREEN
IRELAND	IRISH	LEGEND
LEPRECHAUN	LIMERICK	PATRICK
POTOFGOLD	RAINBOW	SAINT
SHAMROCK	SNAKES	



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http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Saint_Patrick's_Day

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