

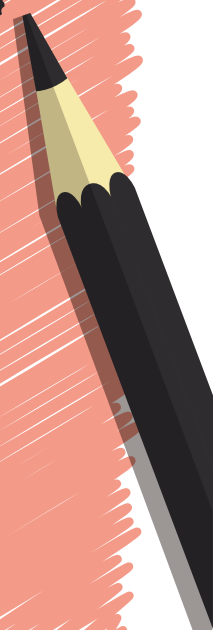


Creative European School



Click Family Stories

ERASMUS+



Erasmus+



Funded by the
Erasmus+ Programme
of the European Union

PREFACE

One of the aims of the project Creative European school: C.L.I.C.K. is to promote joint cooperation within six European countries by enhancing creativity and motivation to learn using transcurricular teaching/learning. The story book The Click family in town is one of the outcomes of Erasmus + project N.2015-1-LT01-KA219-013406-3 and tells us about 18 different festivals and holidays in project countries in an alphabetic order Italy, Greece, Lithuania, Portugal, Romania and Spain. The stories are created and illustrated by pupils under the guidance of an international team of teachers. The project partners call themselves the Click family who is interested in culture and traditions therefore travels across Europe and visits 3 different festivals in every project partners' country. The main characters are Parents and their children John and Ann (each country has the equivalents to these names in their mother tongue), share their experiences and emotions while taking part in a festival as well as introduce the origin of the festival and most important moments while celebrating them.



The book reflects the festivals the pupils have visited themselves or would like to participate in. The story book is translated into English although the descriptions about the festivals are also written in the native language of the country a festival is held. The book is full of interesting descriptions, colorful drawings and experiences. It can be a helpful resource for learning about culture and traditions of different countries, a perfect example of transcurricular learning and teaching, a perfect illustration of creativity and collaboration of six European countries. The project is financed by EU funds.

Special thanks to the pupils and teachers who worked on this book.



SCHOOLS, STUDENTS AND TEACHERS OF OUR FESTIVAL STORIES BOOK

GREECE

ARSAKEIO LYCEUM OF PATRA

RIO-PATRA GREECE

COORDINATOR TEACHER: DIMITRIOS VLACHODIMITROPOULOS

TEACHERS: NIKOLITSA ANASTASOPOULOU, SOTIRIA DIAMANTOPOULOU, KASSIANI ELEFThERIADI, GEORGIOS THEODOROPoulos, ATHANASIOS LOUKOPOULOS AND EMMANOUIL PETRAKIS

STUDENTS: ANNA GIAPITZI-PAPANDREOU, PANAGIOTA BOUZOUKA, ILIOSTALAKTI THOUA.

FESTIVAL STORIES

- ♦ A CARNIVAL STORY - ΜΙΑ ΚΑΡΝΑΒΑΛΙΚΗ ΙΣΤΟΡΙΑ
- ♦ LIBERATION DAY - ΗΜΕΡΑ ΑΝΕΞΑΡΤΗΣΙΑΣ
- ♦ AN ANCIENT GREEK TRAGEDY - ΜΙΑ ΑΡΧΑΙΑ ΕΛΛΗΝΙΚΗ ΤΡΑΓΩΔΙΑ



ITALY

ISTITUTO COMPRENSIVO

“F. MINÀ PALUMBO”

CASTELBUONO (PA) ITALY

COORDINATOR TEACHER: CASABLANCA ANGELO

TEACHERS:

D.CONOSCENTI, L.SCIALABBA, S.BONOMO, C.FORTI, M. CURRIERI, M.A. PIAZZA, C.LI VOLSI, M.G. SPALLINO, R.SIDELI

STUDENTS:

G.CORRADINO, V.CICERO, L.PRISINZANO, E.GUARCELLO, C.CAROLLO, F.SPALLINO, G.BARRECA, A.VACCARO, G.CASTIGLIA, F.CITTA, M.POLIZZOTTO, G.GULINO, P.SFERRUZZA, D.GAMBARO.

FESTIVAL STORIES

- ♦ CARNIVAL - CARNEVALE
- ♦ SAINT ANNE - SANT'ANNA
- ♦ SAINT JOHN - SAN GIOVANNI



LITHUANIA

MAZEIKIU VENTOS PROGIMNAZIJA

MAZEIKIAI LITHUANIA

COORDINATOR TEACHER: CEPausKIENE LINA

TEACHERS:

BERNOTIENE RIMA LIAUDANSKIENE JOLANDA, THE HEADTEACHER BADAUKIENE RAMUNE AND THE LIBRARIAN STEPONAVICIENE BIRUTE

STUDENTS: Arlauskis Jokubas, Dapsyte Monika, Freimontas Dziugas, Luksaite Milda, Meskauskaite Agne, Pupsyte Zaneta, Vaitiekaityte Auguste, Andruzaityte Saule, Borisova Aneta, Galminaitė Milda, Miciute Urte, Milvydaite Elija, Niaunyte Kotryna, O'Malley Gabriele, Pociute Gertruda, Silinskas Lukas, Skipskyte Juste, Usoryte Aiste, Vasiliauskaite Jotaute.

FESTIVAL STORIES

- ♦ STREET MUSICAL DAY - GATVĖS MUZIKOS DIENA
- ♦ SAINT JOHN - JONINĖS
- ♦ FREEDOM DEFENDERS DAY - LAISVĖS GYNĖJŲ DIENA



PORTUGAL

COLÉGIO DR. LUÍS PEREIRA DA COSTA MONTE REDONDO LRA PORTUGAL

COORDINATOR TEACHER: LUÍS PEDRO PEÇA

TEACHERS: PAULA CARDOSO, RUI MIRANDA

STUDENTS: INES PEDROSA, SARA AZINHEIRO, INES FERNANDES, TELMA SANTOS, BÃRBARA SANTOS

FESTIVAL STORIES

- SAINT ANTHONY - SANTO ANTONIO
- ♦ FAIR OF MAY - FEIRA DE MAIO
- ♦ PORTUGAL NATIONAL DAY - DIA DE PORTUGAL



ROMANIA

SCOALA GIMNAZIALA "CONSTANTIN PARFENE" VASLUI ROMANIA

COORDINATOR TEACHER: DANIELA CRIZANTEMA NANE

TEACHERS: M.MONICA COMAN, E.ALEXA, C.VELISCU,
E.K.CHIRIAC, D.NEMTANU, M.PRELIPCEAN, N. OLARU, A. PASCU.

STUDENTS: MIRUNA LUPASCU Ş, O.MĂRĂNDESCU, M.M. MATCASU, A.P.
DRAGOSLAV, T. PEDA, Ş.CHIRIAC, D.M. COBZARU, L.I. MUNTEANU, R.GATU,
E.DIMA, S.CIOCAN, A.M. MOSANU, M.ORINDOVICI, E. COZMA,T.S. CĂRARE,
D.OLARU, T.GHELBERE, M.T. TURBATU, Ş.ICHIM, M.T. BOGHIU, M.BĂLĂUTĂ, D.N.
IRIMIA, A. ȚIPLEA, M.MOCANU, A.ONUT, A. LĂZĂREANU, M. TĂNASĂ.

FESTIVAL STORIES

- ♦ "DATINA" FESTIVAL - FESTIVALUL DATINA
- ♦ THE CRAFTSMEN FAIR - TÂRGUL MEȘTERILOR POPULARI
- ♦ THE "CONSTANTIN TĂNASE" INTERNATIONAL FESTIVAL
OF HUMOUR - FESTIVALUL INTERNATIONAL DE UMOR
"CONSTANTIN TANASE"



SPAIN

CENTRO DE ENSEÑANZAS GREGUERIAS

SOCIEDAD COOPERATIVA ANDALUZA

FERNÁN NÚÑEZ SPAIN

COORDINATOR TEACHER: MARIA ALVAREZ

TEACHERS: CRISTINA JAÉN NIETO, CRISTINA GARCÍA

STUDENTS: JOSÉ MANUEL JIMÉNEZ MORAL, ANDREA CANO PINA, ANA CARMEN CARMONA CASTRO, ANTONIO JESÚS ORTEGA PÉREZ, JOSÉ MANUEL LÓPEZ PEDRAZA, ROCÍO CARMONA NIETO, MANUEL SANTIAGO GÓMEZ, MARÍA CARDADOR BERRAL, MARÍA JOSÉ MUÑOZ SÁNCHEZ, AINHOA GONZÁLEZ PINTOR

FESTIVAL STORIES

- ♦ EASTER - SEMANA SANTA
- ♦ THE EPIPHANY - EPIFANÍA DE LOS REYES MAGOS.
- ♦ JUEVES LARDERO - JUEVES LARDERO





Greek Stories

A CARNIVAL STORY

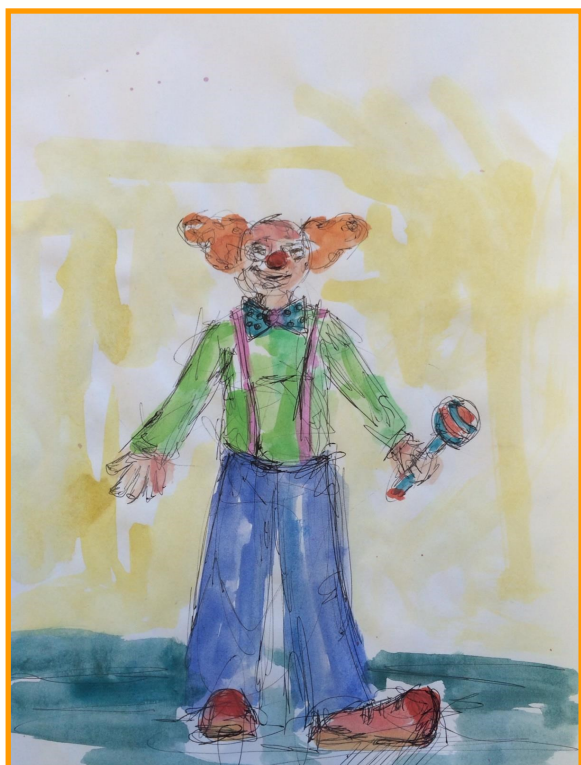
Anna and John arrived at Patra at the most suitable time of the year. It was Carnival! While they were walking through Patra, right beside them passed the "Crier", a Carnival Chariot, with the Crier dressed in a carnival costume that informs people about the outset of Carnival with songs and this particular way: "Hello! Hello! Friends and countrymen, children and adults! British, French, Portuguese and all of you from big Europe! The fairytales are over! Carnival begins!!" Additionally, they decided to participate with one of the Carnival Groups in the game of the "Hidden Treasure". Quest games, questions and few quizzes were the concern of the participants, as well as Anna's and John's.





At the hunt of the Treasure, the group that managed to find the treasure first, won the game. The last two days, they took part in the Carnival Parade. Dressed together with their group with a funny, satirical or artistic costume they danced through Patra, just as thousands other groups, each one with a different costume. Many phantasmagoric Carnival Chariots, as well as carnival music, accompanied the parade. The last day, at night, they observed the burning of the Chariot of the King of Carnival, which meant the end of this wonderful experience. They sure will visit again Patra, for Carnival 2017.

Μία καρναβαλική ιστορία



Η Άννα και ο Γιάννης έφτασαν στην Πάτρα την καταλληλότερη εποχή. Την εποχή του Καρναβαλιού. Καθώς διέσχιζαν τους δρόμους της Πάτρας, από δίπλα τους πέρασε ο “Τελάλης”, ένα καρναβαλικό άρμα και ο Τελάλης ντυμένος καρναβαλικά που ενημερώνει τους πολίτες για την έναρξη του Καρναβαλιού, με τραγούδια και με τα εξής λόγια: “Ακούσατε, ακούσατε! Φίλοι και συμπολίτες μικροί και μεγάλοι! Άγγλοι, Γάλλοι,

Πορτογάλοι και όλοι εσείς απ’ την Ευρώπη την μεγάλη! Αρακάς, κουκιά, ρεβίθια, τέλειωσαν τα παραμύθια! Άνηθος, σπανάκι, ρύζι και το Καρναβάλι αρχίζει!” Επίσης, αποφάσισαν να συμμετάσχουν μαζί με ένα από τα Καρναβαλικά γκρουπ στο Παιχνίδι του “Κρυμμένου Θησαυρού”.

Παιχνίδια ερωτήσεων, αναζήτησης και quiz απασχόλησαν τους καρναβαλιστές, όπως και την Άννα με το Γιάννη. Στο κυνήγι του θησαυρού, το γκρουπ που κατάφερνε να τον βρει πρώτο, κέρδιζε. Τις δύο τελευταίες μέρες τα παιδιά αποφάσισαν να βγουν στην Καρναβαλική Παρέλαση. Ντυμένοι μαζί με το γκρουπ τους ένα κωμικό, σατιρικό, ή καλλιτεχνικό θέμα, παρέλασαν στους δρόμους της Πάτρας, όπως άλλα πολλά γκρουπ, το καθένα με διαφορετική στολή. Την παρέλαση συνόδευσαν αρκετά φαντασμαγορικά άρματα και καρναβαλική μουσική. Την τελευταία μέρα, το βράδυ, παρακολούθησαν την καύση του άρματος του Βασιλιά Καρνάβαλου, που σηματοδότησε τη λήξη του Καρναβαλιού. Μετά από αυτή την αξέχαστη εμπειρία, αποφάσισαν να ξαναεπισκεφτούν την Πάτρα, για το Καρναβάλι του 2017.



An ancient Greek tragedy

It was a warm summer night. John was so nervous! August finally came. It was a very important month for Greece. It was a month dedicated to the ancient theater and especially tragedy. John loves theater more than anything and he was waiting for this festival all year long. This institution established 60 years ago with the tragedy of Ekavi and since



then, every summer dozens of people gather at Epidaurus in order to enjoy traditional tragedy plays from Greek actors, a real hymn to Ancient tradition. John and his parents are going there every year since he remembers himself and he has fallen in love with the art of theater since he was a little kid. The night before the beginning of the

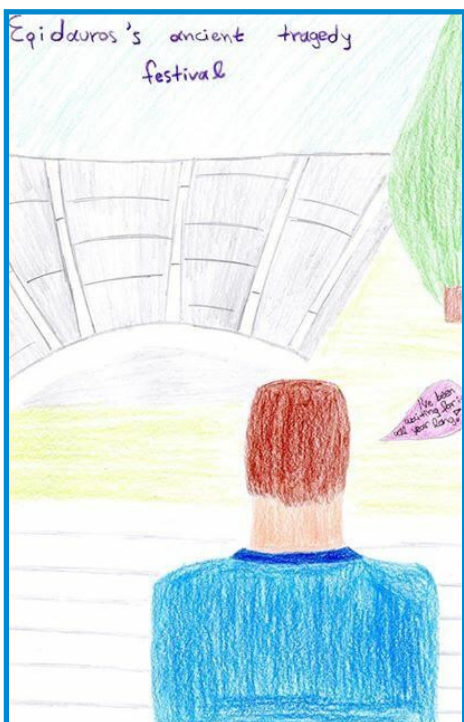
festival finally came! John is ready. He is wearing his favorite shirt as it is a very special night for him.

When he and his family arrive at Epidaurus's parking, he walks between hundreds of people that are as excited as he is. He is now old enough to see this place differently. He is trying to think about the way of life back then... He wishes he could live back then and participate at Greek tragedies and festivities. After all this thinking he is done with, he faces the theater. His heart stops. Every time he goes there, the same feeling. His pulses stop. Awe and admiration for Greek culture the only things he got left with. And this place... So beautifully magical! A huge ancient theater with an atmosphere that takes his breath away and gives him a taste of ancient Greece's way of life. Best summer of his life.



Μία αρχαία Ελληνική τραγωδία

Ήταν ένα ζεστό καλοκαιρινό βραδύ. Ο Γιάννης ήταν τόσο νευρικός! Ο Αύγουστος επιτέλους έφτασε. Ήταν ένας πολύ



σημαντικός μήνας για την Ελλάδα. Ήταν ένας μήνας αφιερωμένος στο αρχαίο θέατρο και ειδικότερα στην τραγωδία. Ο Γιάννης αγαπά το θέατρο περισσότερο από οτιδήποτε και περίμενε για αυτό το φεστιβάλ όλο το χρόνο. Αυτός ο θεσμός καθιερώθηκε εξήντα χρόνια πριν με την τραγωδία της Εκάβης και από τότε, ντουζίνες ανθρώπων συγκεντρώνονται στην Επίδαυρο με σκοπό να διασκεδάσουν με τραγικά έργα, ένας αληθινός ύμνος στην αρχαία παράδοση. Ο Γιάννης και οι γονείς του πηγαίνουν εκεί κάθε χρόνο

από τότε που θυμάται τον εαυτό του και έχει ερωτευτεί την τέχνη του θεάτρου από τότε που ήταν μικρό παιδί. Η νύχτα πριν από την έναρξη του φεστιβάλ επιτέλους ήρθε! Ο Γιάννης είναι έτοιμος. Φορεί το αγαπημένο του πουκάμισο μιας και είναι μια πολύ σημαντική νύχτα για εκείνον. Όταν αυτός και η οικογένεια του φτάνουν στο παρκινγκ της Επιδαύρου, περπατά ανάμεσα σε χιλιάδες ανθρώπους τόσο ενθουσιασμένους όσο εκείνος.

Είναι πλέον αρκετά μεγάλος για να δει αυτό το μέρος διαφορετικά. Προσπαθεί να σκεφτεί τον τρόπο ζωής εκείνα τα χρόνια.. Εύχεται να μπορούσε να ζήσει τότε ώστε να μπορεί να συμμετάσχει στις ελληνικές τραγωδίες και δραστηριότητες. Μετά από τις σκέψεις αυτές που έκανε, αντικρίζει το θέατρο. Η κάρδια του σταματήσει. Κάθε φορά που πηγαίνει εκεί, το ίδιο συναίσθημα. Οι παλμοί του σταματούν. Δέος και θαυμασμός για την ελληνική κουλτούρα, τα μονά πράγματα που του απέμειναν. Κι αυτό το μέρος.. Τόσο όμορφα μαγικό! Ένα τεράστιο αρχαίο θέατρο με μια ατμόσφαιρα που του κόβει την ανάσα και του δίνει μια γεύση από την Αρχαία Ελλάδα. Το καλύτερο καλοκαίρι της ζωής του.



Liberation day

Once upon a time in the suburbs of Kalamata lived a couple with their twin children ,Maria and Gianni.An ordinary day, the two children went to school. One of their subjects was History. That day their History lesson was about 25th March 1821 when the Greek was of independence against the Turks broke out. The children learnt so much about that day that when they went back home they were so excited that they wanted to narrate everything they had learnt to their parents. That day the twins learnt that their hometown played the most important role at the breakout of the war against the Turks. Some days later at the square of the town a festival took place in honour of the great event.



The children with their parents went there .They all felt excited and proud. There was a parade of men in traditional costumes riding horses, holding banners with slogans in favour of the Greeks. After the parade Maria and Gianni bought some traditional Greek sweets made by the women of the town. The famous Greek halvah , which was delicious ,was their favourite. After that day they promised each other to honour and celebrate this day as long as they live.

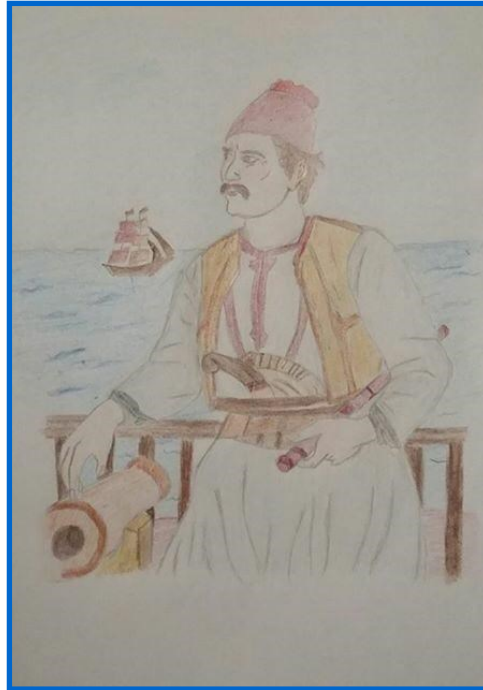


Ημέρα Ανεξαρτησίας



Μια φορά και έναν καιρό, στα προάστια της Καλαμάτας ζούσε ένα ζευγάρι με τα δίδυμα παιδιά τους, την Μαρία και τον Γιάννη. Μια συνηθισμένη μέρα, τα δύο παιδιά πήγαν στο σχολείο και ένα από τα μαθήματα που είχαν ήταν η Ιστορία. Εκείνη την μέρα το μάθημα της Ιστορίας τους, μιλούσε για την 25 Μαρτίου 1821 όταν οι Έλληνες ξεκίνησαν επανάσταση κατά τους Τούρκους. Τα παιδιά έμαθαν τόσα πολλά για εκείνη την μέρα που όταν γύρισαν στο σπίτι ήταν τόσο ενθουσιασμένα που ήθελαν να διηγηθούν ό,τι είχαν μάθει στους γονείς τους.

Εκείνη την μέρα τα δίδυμα έμαθαν επίσης ότι η πόλη τους έπαιζε σημαντικό ρόλο στο ξέσπασμα κατά τον Τούρκων.



Μερικές μέρες αργότερα στα προάστια της πόλης τους οργανώθηκε ένα φεστιβάλ προς τιμή αυτού του γεγονότος. Τα παιδιά με τους γονείς τους πήγαν εκεί. Όλοι ήταν ενθουσιασμένοι και περήφανοι. Πραγματοποιήθηκε μια παρέλαση από άνδρες πάνω σε άλογα ντυμένοι με την παραδοσιακή ελληνική στολή και ακολουθούσαν άτομα με διάφορα συνθήματα σε πανό υπέρ των Ελλήνων. Μετά την παρέλαση η Μαρία και ο Γιάννης αγόρασαν μερικά ελληνικά παραδοσιακά γλυκά φτιαγμένα από τις γυναίκες της πόλης. Όπως τον γνωστό ελληνικό χαλβά, ο οποίος ήταν πολύ νόστιμος αλλά και ο αγαπημένος τους. Μετά από αυτή την μέρα τα παιδιά υποσχέθηκαν μεταξύ τους ότι θα γιορτάζουν αυτή την μέρα για όλη τους την ζωή.



Italian Stories

CARNIVAL

The Carnival is one of the most amusing and important festival of my town: Castelbuono. In the past it was a very famous festival and involved the whole community because it was a period in which people forgot the stress of the daily routine, using the irony and the caricature. This evening I went out with my family. My sister Anne and I have worn old suits of our grandparents. My grandfather has told me that when he was young people got dressed the strangest suits, with pyjamas, ancient mantles and hats. They hid their face and changed the voice, so nobody couldn't recognize them. They made caricature of local political figures that could not openly criticize during the year, but even the friend or the unpleasant relative. Tonight we must meet some friends to go to dance and to eat the typical sweets of Carnival.



During the Carnival all the families organize some ballrooms to be able to dance and to eat sweets. It's a typical custom of my country that still remains in the tradition of Carnival. Now, however the houses are not more used as ballrooms but there are some big rooms where from the next day of the Epiphany people dance in mask. My family and I have already participated to one of these very amusing evenings where we have eaten typical sweets: head of Turkish, sweet rice, canoli and chiacchiere. This evening we will go out with our classmates. In the roads we met people dressed in a strange way.



They have a good time and you don't understand if the people in mask are males or females! Tomorrow it is the last night of Carnival and I will spend it dancing in mask in a big public room. There will be surely the presence of people that will do the satires and of the caricatures on the most important characters of Castelbuono. In the last evening finally the historical groups of the country will organize a parade of masks and allegorical wagons. This evening we had a good time and we went to bed at four o'clock in the morning. It has been very amusing.

CARNEVALE



Carnevale è una delle feste più divertenti e importanti del mio paese: Castelbuono. In passato era una festa molto sentita e attesa da tutta la comunità perché era un periodo in cui la gente riusciva a scaricare tutto lo stress della daily routine, usando l'arma dell'ironia e della caricatura. Questa sera sono uscito con la mia famiglia. Io e mia sorella Anna abbiamo indossato vecchi abiti dei nostri nonni. In passato ci si travestiva, con gli abiti più strani, con pigiami e mantelli antichi, cappelli. Si nascondeva la faccia e si cambiava la voce per non farsi riconoscere e prendere di mira chi durante tutto l'anno magari non si poteva apertamente criticare: il politico, il personaggio pubblico, ma anche l'amico e o il parente caduto in antipatia. Dobbiamo incontrarci con degli amici per andare a ballare e a mangiare i dolci tipici di carnevale. Durante il carnevale, in passato, tutte le famiglie organizzano delle sale da ballo dove poter ballare e mangiare dolci. E' un'usanza tipica del mio paese che rimane ancora nelle trazioni



Ora però le case non vengono più utilizzate come piste da ballo ma ci sono dei luoghi più ampi e organizzati, in cui già dall'indomani dell'Epifania si balla in maschera. Io e la mia famiglia abbiamo già partecipato ad una di queste serate molto divertenti che si è conclusa con l'immane abbuffata di dolci tipici: testa di turco, riso dolce in tegame, cannoli e chiacchiere. Il Questa sera usciremo con i nostri compagni di classe. Nelle strade si incontrano tantissime perso-

ne vestite in modo strano. Si divertono a scherzare e a far arrabbiare le persone che incontrano per strada. È divertentissimo! Non si riesce a capire a capire se le persone in maschera sono maschi o femmine! Domani è l'ultima notte di Carnevale e la trascorrerò al "veglione", un ballo in maschera che di solito si svolge in una grande sala pubblica. Ci sarà sicuramente la presenza di persone che faranno delle satire e delle caricature sui personaggi più importanti di Castelbuono. L'ultima sera infine i gruppi storici carnevaleschi del paese organizzeranno una sfilata di maschere e carri allegorici. Questa sera comunque ci siamo divertiti molto Siamo andati a letto alle quattro di mattina. È stato molto bello e divertente.

SAINT ANNE

The Feast of Saint Anne takes place in Castelbuono from 17 to 27 July of every year. For us it is a moment of indescribable joy. The whole town is full of colors, lights and decorations and the main square is full of people. Every evening we go out with our parents to admire the lights and to meet our friends and to smell the feast. Lots of tourists arrive to take part to one of the characteristic and solemn religious feast in the whole Sicily. Every morning is celebrated the mass inside the Palatine Chapel that preserves the sacred skull and crossbones of the Saint and several songs are tuned up in her honor. We have already been to the mass with the whole family and tonight we want to follow the procession of the statue. Every evening in fact, one statue of the Saint is brought for the streets of the town and it is accompanied by the believers that confide her their fears and thank her to have received the mercies. It is an unique experience that we live every year with joy to beg our favourite Saint.





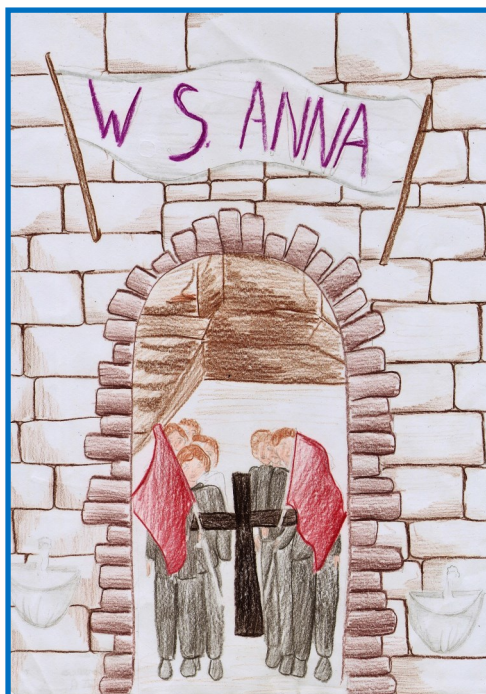
25 July is the day of the opening of the grate that has guarded the skull and crossbones of Saint Anne for the whole year. The mayor takes the keys to open it and the silver bust of the Saint is exposed to the believers. The bust is emptied by the cotton that has been for the whole year in contact with the relic and it is distributed in small fragments to the devotees that will preserve it forever. On July 26 takes place the "International Foot Race", a competition of athletes from all over the world. It's a centenary tradition and all people follow it with great interest. The last day of the feast we will go to visit the coffin of the Saint. It is brought in the courtyard of the castle and it becomes object of pilgrimage for all the citizens. The most exciting moment is however the solemn procession that takes place in the evening to show our affection to Saint Anne. At the end of the party all gather in the courtyard of the castle and from the balcony of it Saint Anne blesses her people.

LA FESTA DI SANT'ANNA



La festa di Sant'Anna si svolge a Castelbuono dal 17 al 27 luglio di ogni anno. Per noi è un momento di gioia indescrivibile. Tutto il paese si anima di colori, luci e addobbi e la piazza principale si popola di bancarelle di ogni tipo. Tutte le sere usciamo con i nostri genitori ad ammirare le luci e incontrare i nostri amici e a respirare aria di festa. I turisti arrivano in tanti, desiderosi di prendere parte ad una delle manifestazioni più caratteristiche e solenni dell'intera Sicilia. Ogni mattina si celebra la messa all'interno della Cappella Palatina che custodisce il sacro teschio della Santa e numerosi canti vengono intonati in suo onore. Siamo già stati a messa con tutta la famiglia e stasera vogliamo seguire la processione della statua. Ogni sera infatti, una sua statua viene condotta per le viuzze del paese ed è accompagnata da tantissimi fedeli che le confidano i loro timori e la ringraziamo per le grazie ricevute. E' un'esperienza unica che viviamo ogni anno con gioia per pregare la nostra santa preferita.

Giorno 25 è il giorno dell'apertura della grata che ha custodito il teschio di Sant'Anna per un anno intero. Il sindaco dà le chiavi con le quali aprire e viene esposto il busto d'argento della Santa Patrona ai fedeli. Il busto viene svuotato dal cotone che è stato tutto l'anno a contatto con la reliquia e viene distribuito in piccolissimi frammenti ai devoti che lo conserveranno per sempre. Il 26 luglio si svolge il "Giro Podistico Internazionale", una gara di atletica leggera a cui partecipano atleti di fama mondiale. E' una tradizione centenaria a cui Castelbuono è molto affezionata e che si segue con grande interesse. L'ultimo giorno di festa andremo a visitare la "vara". Essa viene portata nel cortile del castello e diventa oggetto di pellegrinaggio per tutti i cittadini. Il momento più emozionante è però la solenne processione che si svolge la sera per dimostrare a Sant'Anna il proprio affetto. A conclusione della festa tutti i si riuniscono nel cortile del castello e dal balcone di esso sant'Anna benedice il suo popolo.



SAINT JOHN



Joy and happiness invade our country, Castelbuono, the day of the Feast of St. John. It is an important Saint for our traditions, it gives a lot of enthusiasm to all people. John and I will be out today for the whole day, but before we will visit our grandparents. My grandmother tells me about the feast in the past, and it makes me notice that still today we maintain in life the same traditions, because this event belongs to the history of our town. Today we will have the possibility to eat and to dance for the streets of the town. The feast is on 24 June, along the roads of the historical center where there are organized some banquets and dances. It is a habit to eat above all broad beans and boiled potatoes cooked in large pots said "Quarare."

This food characterizes this particular party. This year we have decided to walk along the districts where dances and banquets are organized. Walking along the roads we smell the party, people sing and dance together in harmony. The atmosphere is beautiful, full of life, brotherhood and friendship. At the end of the party all sing a beautiful song called in dialect "Comparatico", it says:

"and mate, my best mate when I eat I don't want anybody, when I have finished eating I want all of my best mates."

This means that the day of St. John all are friends and they become "Mates". I sincerely think that this is a fantastic party because it exists for a long time and it is a hymn to the friendship.



San Giovanni



Tanta gioia e felicità invadono il nostro paese, Castelbuono, il giorno della festa di San Giovanni. E' un Santo importante per le nostre tradizioni, dà un tocco di brillante entusiasmo a tutti noi paesani. Io e Giovanni oggi staremo fuori tutto il giorno, ma prima faremo visita ai nonni. Mia nonna per esempio, mi racconta come si svolgeva la festa anni fa, e mi fa notare che ancora oggi noi siamo pienamente fedeli e manteniamo in vita ciò che si faceva un tempo, perché quest'evento fa parte della lunga storia del nostro paese.

Oggi avremo la possibilità di mangiare e ballare per le vie del paese. La festa si svolge il 24 di giugno, lungo le strade del centro storico vengono organizzati dei banchetti e balli. È abitudine mangiare soprattutto le fave e le patate bollite, cucinate in grandi pentoloni detti "Quarare". Questi cibi caratterizzano e rendono molto particolare la festa. Quest'anno abbiamo deciso di girare alcuni dei quartieri dove si organizzano balli e banchetti. Girando per le strade si respira aria di festa, si canta e si balla tutti insieme in armonia.

L'atmosfera è bellissima, piena di allegria, fratellanza, amicizia e soprattutto piena di vita. Alla fine della festa si è cantato, come da tradizione, una bella filastrocca in dialetto castelbuonese chiamata "comparatico", grazioso e breve motivetto che dice più o meno così:

*Cumpari e cummari c'u' piricuddu,
quannu manciu 'un vogghiu a nuddu,
'a finuta di manciari, vogghiu a tutti
i me' cumpari!!*

Che tradotto in italiano significa: "e compare, compare mio quando mangio non voglio nessuno, quando ho finito di mangiare voglio a tutti i miei compari". Questo vuol dire che il giorno di San Giovanni tutti sono amici e diventano "compari". Penso sinceramente che questa sia una festa fantastica perché esiste da sempre ed è un inno all'amicizia e alla condivisione.





Lithuanian Stories

STREET MUSICAL DAY

One bright and sunny Saturday morning John woke up to the sounds of the music coming from the street. His ears could recognize the sound of the violin so the astonished boy rushed to his parents' bedroom. 'Mom, Mom, can you hear this? He shouted while opening the door. But the bedroom was empty. Neither mom nor dad were in. Thoughtfully the boy turned to leave the room when he heard loud and bumpy sounds. He looked through the window and saw a drummer. John ambled to the kitchen and found his father making a cup of coffee. "Good morning ", His father greeted him in a cheerful voice. Get dressed quickly have your breakfast. We will go for a walk."

In half an hour John ,his sister Ann and their parents were strolling the streets. there was music around played with various musical instruments ,the names of which the kids even did not know exactly. They are street musicians, Mummy explained .They play music on the streets to entertain people and get some money."Why are there so many of them?" Ann was really curious about that. "Because it's Street Musician Day today," Father smiled." Hey,take some money and give it to any musician you like best."

Ann grabbed a coin and dashed to a young boy playing the saxophone. She stood for a while in front of him and put the money into the hat lying on the ground. Excited and smiling she rushed back. "He plays wonderfully, doesn't he ,Mom:"? "Sure, dear," her Mom smiled in return. "John, what about you? Haven't you donated any euros yet?"

"No, Mummy", replied the boy.

John was keen on music but he couldn't hear the melody he was really into. Suddenly he noticed an old lady who was surrounded by kids. The youngest was playing the drums, the other two were strumming their guitars. John was ready to pass by when suddenly the woman sang in a soft , sweet voice. The boy didn't understand the words but he loved the song at once. He posed and glanced. There were some coins in a shabby hat next to the drummer. Smiling he threw his euro into the hat. It was a lucky coincidence that the song finished at that moment.





Thanks, poppet, she smiled. Her eyes were glistening with tears . You are a very kind boy".The boy beamed and ran to his parents. Ann asked Dad for some more euros telling him she also loved the way the woman had sang and immediately threw her money into the old woman's hat. The Click family spent the whole day walking around and listening to street performers.Even late in the evening sitting at home they could hear sweet sounds of music through the windows." It's wonderful to be a street musician" John wispered." They all play so well." Soon John fell asleep to a sweet melody of a lullaby.

Gatvės muzikos diena

Vieną saulėtą šeštadienio rytą Jonuką pažadino pro pravirą langą sklindanti muzika. Berniukas pažino smuiko skleidžiamus garsus ir nieko nelaukęs nubėgo pas tėvus į miegamąjį.

-Mama! Mama, girdi?! – linksmai sušuko atbėgęs į kambarį.

Bet nei mamos, nei tėčio kambaryje nebuvo. Susimąstęs berniukas išgirdo kitokią – trankią muziką. Pažvelgęs pro langą pamatė būgnininką.

Nupėdinęs į virtuvę pamatė tėtį, ruošiantį pusryčius.

-Labas rytas, - žvaliai pasisveikino tėtis, - bėk renkis, papusryčiausim ir eisim laukan.

Po pusvalandžio Jonukas su sesute Onute ir tėveliais jau vaikštinėjo gatve. Aplink skambėjo įvairiausia muzika, kurią skleidė puikiai pažįstami, o kartais ir nematyti instrumentai.

-Tai gatvės muzikantai, - paaiškino mama, - jie groja gatvėse tam, kad pristatytų save visuomenei, užsidirbtų pinigų ir pralinksmintų žmones.



-O kodėl jų čia tiek daug? – smalsavo Onutė.

-Nes šiandien Gatvės muzikos diena, - nusišypsojo tėtis,
- štai, imkit po eurą, ir padovanokit patikusiam muzikantui.

Onutė čiupo pinigėlį ir nubėgo prie jauno, saksofonu grojančio vaikino. Kiek pastovėjusi įmetė monetą į skrybėlę, padėtą ant žemės, ir išsišiepusi grįžo pas šeimyną.

-Jis gražiai groja, ar ne, mama? – paklausė.

-Žinoma, mieloji, - nusišypsojo mama, - O tu, Jonuk, dar niekam nepadovanojai pinigėlio?

-Ne, mama, - atsiliepė berniukas.

Jonukas mėgo muziką, bet aplink niekur negirdėjo jam patinkančios dainos.

Staiga po vienu medžiu pamatė senyvą moterį. Aplink ją sėdėjo vaikai. Vienas, pats jauniausias, grojo mažyčiais būgneliais. Du kiti brazdino gitaras. Jonukas jau norėjo praeiti pro grupelę, kai netikėtai moteris uždainavo švelniu, tyliu balsu.

Daina jam labai patiko. Jis sustojo. Prie mažojo būgnininko pastebėjo aptriušusią skrybėlaitę, kurioje gulėjo vos keletas monetų. Nusišypsojęs dainuojančiai moteriai, jis įdėjo savo pinigą į skrybėlę. Taip sutapo, kad daina baigėsi, ir moteris nutilo.

-Ačiū, mažyli, - nusišypsojo ir paklausė: - Tau patiko mūsų muzika?



Jonukas šyptelėjo ir nubėgo pas tėvus. Sesutė prašė tėčio daugiau pinigų, sakydama:

-Ta moteris labai gražiai padainavo. Duok dar vieną pinigėlį, prašau...

Tėtis atsidusęs ištraukė monetą iš kišenės ir padavė Onutei, kuri tuoj pat nubėgo pas dainuojančią moteriškę.

Taip Klik šeimyna praleido Gatvės muzikos dieną.

-Mamyt, gal dar ir aš galėčiau pradėti mokytis groti?- nedrąsiai paklausė Jonukas, gulėdamas lovoje, ir prisiminė berniuką su mažyčiais būgneliais.

Saint John

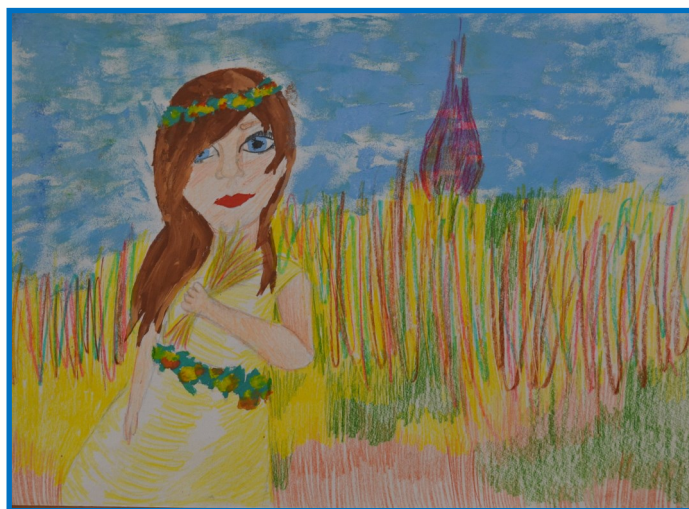


St. Jonas (John) is a festival celebrated in the middle of June. To be more precise on the 24th of June. It's a name day of Jonas and Janina. Most probably for many families it's a regular festival but not for the Clicks. It is a special celebration for them as it is Jonas's name day. Legends tell if someone is lucky to find a fern blossom that night he/she will be happy throughout the whole year. It's Eve of st. John tonight. The whole family is waiting impatiently for the evening to come. They are planning to light a large bonfire and to look for a fern blossom in the woods nearby. The closer the evening the more impatient Jonas is. This celebration is going to be very special to him. When the evening comes, the parents light a huge bonfire. The children feel happy and excited, they hold hands and dance around the fire.

When the clock strikes midnight the family walks towards the woods. When John was little he thought that a fern is an ordinary flower and could not understand why everyone is so eager to find it. When he grew up he grasped the meaning of this festival and decided to find this magic blossom which could make him to become famous. At night all alone he was checking all the plants which reminded of a fern. More than hour passed but his search was not successful. Feeling regret he turned home . Even though Jonas dream did not come true that night but they all had a wonderful time together and the memories of this festival will stay with them for a long time.



Joninės



Joninės - tai šventė, švenčiama birželio pabaigoje, tiksliau, birželio 24 d. taip pat naktį iš 23 į 24 d. Tada būna ilgiausia diena ir trumpiausia naktis. Lietuvoje Joninės paskelbtos nedarbo diena. Tai Jonų ir Janinų vardadienis. Vieniems tai gal ir paprasta šventė, bet Klik šeimai - tai ypatinga proga, nes tądien Jonuko vardadienis. Legendose sakoma, kad tam, kuris Joninių naktį ras paparčio žiedą - seksis visus metus.

Šiandien Joninių išvakarės. Visa šeima labai nekantrauja ir laukia vakaro. Vakare jie planuoja kieme užkurti didžiulį laužą ir vidurnaktį miškelyje ieškoti paparčio žiedo. Kuo labiau artėja vakaras - tuo labiau nenustygsta Jonukas. Šios Joninės jam bus ypatingos. Atėjus visų lauktam vakarui, tėvai ir sesutė pasveikina Jonuką : užkabina jam qžuolo vainiką, kieme užkuria didžiulį laužą.

Vaikai jaučiasi labai laimingi ir, susikibę rankomis, šoka aplink jį. Artėjant vidurnakčiui visa šeima patraukia link miškelio. Anksčiau Jonukas galvodavo, kad paparčio žiedas tik paprasta gėlė ir nesuprasdavo, kodėl visi taip nori jį rasti. Kai Jonukas paaugo ir suprato šventės reikšmę, nusprendė būtinai rasti stebuklingą paparčio žiedą ir išgarsėti. Vidurnaktį jis atsiskyręs nuo tėvų tikrino kiekvieną augalą, kuris buvo nors kiek panašus į papartį. Po pusantros valandos nesėkmingų paieškų jis nusiminęs grįžo pas šeimą.

Nors tąnakt ir neišsipildė Jonuko svajonė, tačiau jie visi puikiai praleido laiką. Šią vasaros šventę atsimins dar ilgai.



Freedom Defenders Day



The night was really cold and starry. John could not sleep. He was too excited. Early in the morning they are going to the capital to visit his grandfather. It's a special day for all the citizens of Lithuania. Twenty five years ago Dad and his family together with thousands of Lithuanians gathered in Vilnius to defend the most precious treasure - their freedom and independence of the country.

Tomorrow is the 13th of January and it's a day when the whole family meets to commemorate the Freedom Defenders Day. The day

which proved that the citizens of a small Baltic country were ready to scarify their lives to be free.

John closes his eyes. In front of him he can see a huge TV tower surrounded by thousands of people holding their hands and shouting "Lithuania, Lithuania." He can hear a strange sound coming closer and closer. John turns around and spots a tank, a real one, approaching the crowd. The people are terrified and John can see horror in their eyes. He is sure that something terrible will happen soon.

John opens his eyes. On the bedside table there is a pin with forget-me-not flower. He is going to stick it tomorrow to mark this special date and the price of freedom the people paid. His eyes close again. The eyelids are as heavy as stones... Now John is holding a cup of hot tea, the people around him are singing Lithuanian national songs or speaking in low voices. Their faces are serious and tired. The bonfires are burning bright and the barricades are growing around. It's early morning. The man is telling about the casualties of the night and the women start crying.

14 civilians were killed and more than 700 got injuries. The Soviet tanks drove through lines of unarmed people who wanted to show the world that a small country wants to be independent. The people's voices started to fade. John found himself in the middle of the field of wonderful blue flowers. "Forget me not, forget me not", they were whispering and John felt so safe and quiet. In the distance he heard a wonderful melody. Freedom.



Laisvės gynėjų diena



Naktis buvo šalta ir žvaigždėta. Jonui niekaip nesisekė užmigti. Jis buvo pernelyg susijaudinęs. Anksti ryte jo laukė kelionė į sostinę pas senelį. Rytojus - ypatinga diena visiems Lietuvos piliečiams. Prieš 25 metus tėtis ir jo šeima kartu su tūkstančiais lietuvių rinkosi į Vilnių ginti brangiausio turto - laisvės ir nepriklausomybės. Ryt, Sausio 13 -ąją, jų šeima kaip ir kasmet minės Laisvės gynėjų dieną. dieną, kai 1991 m. mažos Baltijos valstybės žmonės buvo pasirengę paaukoti savo gyvybę už laisvę.

Jonas užmerkia akis. Prieš jį iškyla didžiulis Televizijos bokštas, apsuptas tūkstančių žmonių, tvirtai susikibusių rankomis ir skanduojančių: „Lietuva, Lietuva...“. Staiga Jono ausis pasiekia keistas garsas, kuris vis artėja ir artėja. Berniukas atsigręžia ir pamato tikrą tanką, kuris juda link minios. Žmonės išsigandę ir Jonas mato siaubą jų akyse. Jis įsitikinęs, kad tuoj nutiks kažkas baisiaus.

Vaikas atsimerkia. Ant stalelio šalia lovos guli neužmirštuolės žiedelis. Šį ženklelį jis būtinai įsisegs ryt, kad paminėtų tuos, kurie sumokėjo gyvybę už mūsų laisvę.

Jono akys vėl užsimerkia. Vokai tampa sunkūs kaip akmenys. Dabar berniukas laiko puodelį karštos arbatos. Žmonės dainuoja liaudies dainas ir tyliai kalbasi. Jų veidai pavargę ir rimti. Ryškiai dega laužai, aplink stato barikadas. Vyras pasakoja apie šios nakties žuvusiuosius, o moterys verkia. Tą naktį žuvo 14 civilių, daugiau kaip 700 sužeistų. Sovietų tankai veržėsi per beginklių žmonių eiles, kurie tik norėjo pasauliui parodyti, kad ir maža šalis trokšta būti nepriklausoma.

Žmonių balsai kažkur nutolsta. Jonas atsiduria neužmirštuolių - gražių, melsvų gėlyčių -lauke. „Nepamiršk, nepamiršk ...“ - šnabžda jos, ir Jonui pasidaro ramu ir saugu.

Iš tolumos atvilnija melodija. Laisvės melodija.



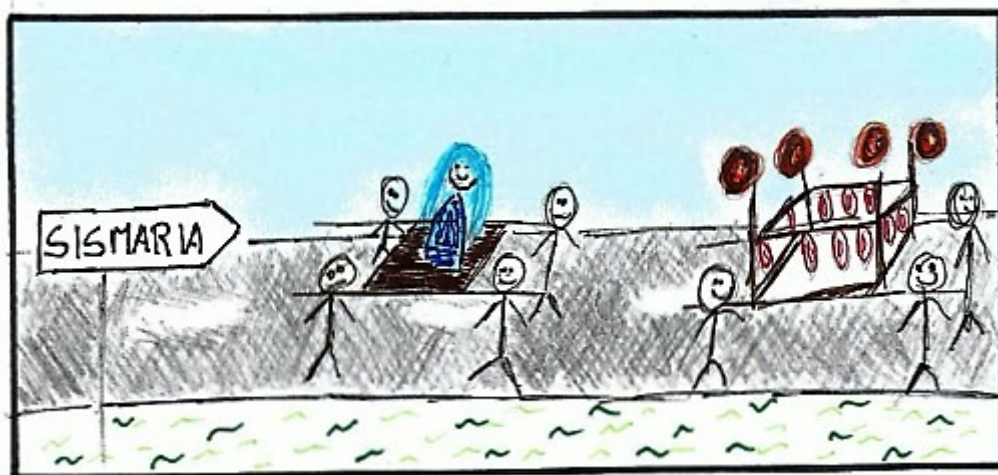


Portuguese Stories

Saint Anthony

On a small locality near the school of Monte Redondo, Sismaria, there is a annual commemoration in honor of Santo António. Santo António is the patron Saint of some regions. He lived on the convent of Santa Cruz and after some years he became Franciscan. He lived a life based on some important trips on the religious point of view. This party happens on the end of February, between the 21th and the 23rd. This festivity includes a Eucharistic celebration, followed by a traditional procession, in which the population makes part of it.

After that moments, is promoted an auction to the sale of regional handmade products like blood sausages. On this party the family watched this same auction, tasting some products and the delivery of the guide to the habitants that will be responsible for the organization of the next year. Was also proportionate to the family clic and to the other habitants a concert small regional bands and a performance of the local ranch "Rosas de Alegria". At the close of this little party is prepared a drawing of raffles that were previously sold.



Santo Antonio

Numa pequena localidade próxima da escola de Monte Redondo, Sismaria, há uma comemoração anual em honra de Santo António. Santo António é o santo padroeiro de algumas regiões. Este viveu no Convento de Santa Cruz e após alguns anos tornou-se franciscano. Viveu uma vida baseada em algumas viagens importantes do ponto de vista religioso. Esta festa ocorre no final do mês de fevereiro, entre os dias 21 e 23. (...) Esta festividade inclui uma celebração eucarística, seguida de uma tradicional procissão, na qual a população participa. Após estes momentos, é promovida um leilão para a venda de produtos regionais confeccionados artesanalmente, nomeadamente chouriças.

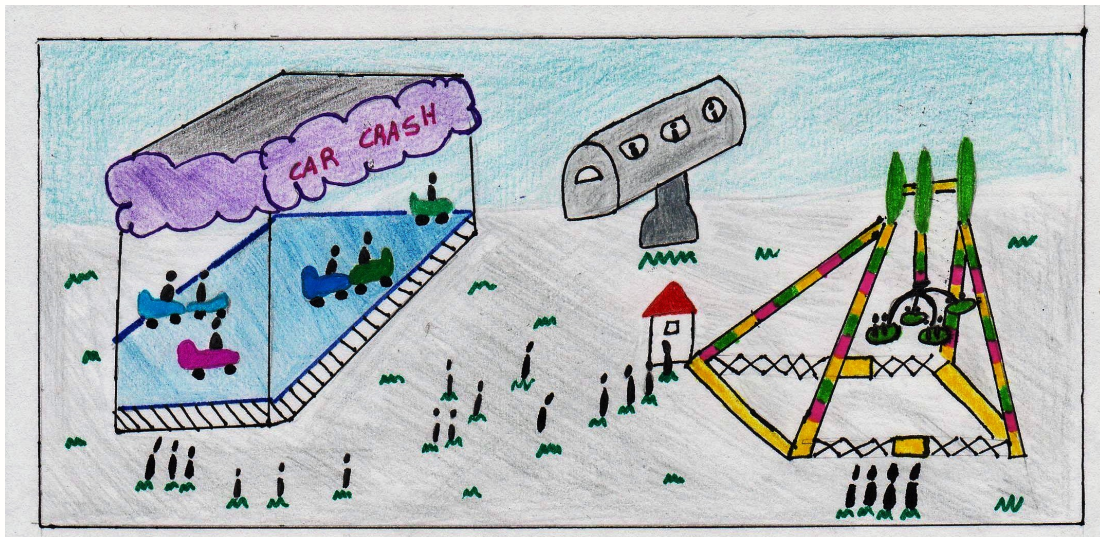




Nesta festa a família Clic assistiu a este mesmo leilão, provando produtos e à entrega do guião aos habitantes que ficarão responsáveis pela organização do ano seguinte. Foi ainda proporcionada à família Clic e aos restantes habitantes, um concerto de pequenas bandas regionais e uma atuação do rancho local "Rosas de Alegria". No encerramento desta pequena festa é elaborado um sorteio de rifas que foram vendidas anteriormente.

Fair of May

Family click was now to the Fair of May in LEIRIA. This fair has everything, having occupations that awake the interested to the different age groups. To the younger, is given a fantastic experience on the most fun carrousel. The older ones can enjoy the commercial zone of the fair, with pieces of clothing, food and accessorize. They can also visit the tents of various associations and caravans of fritters, hot dogs, popcorn and sweet cotton. At night, the family had dinner on the fair restaurants, going after that to the concerts place where they have assisted to a rewarding concert of one Portuguese artist, known in all the world, Aurea, and to finish a performance of a typical ranch.



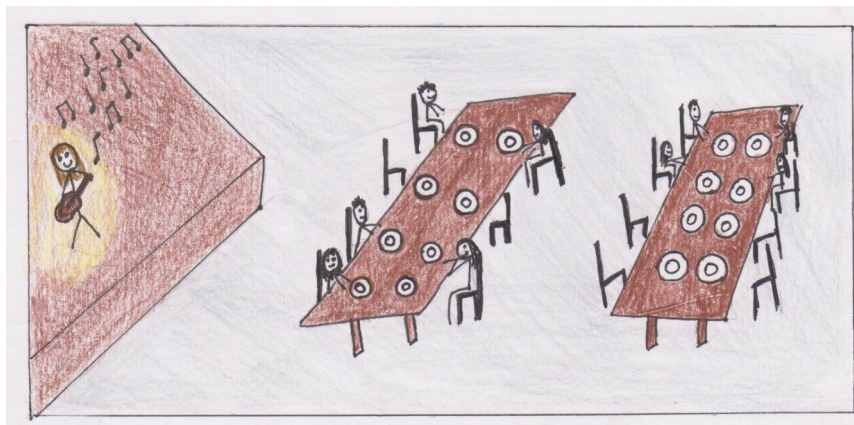
After passing these pleasant moments, click 's sons decided to take the rest of the night in amusement , while his parents decided to spend time together, visiting the shopping area.

Before leaving the fair, the Click family gathered around the area of mobile homes, to eat one last delicious and last fritter.

Feira de Maio

A família clic foi, agora, à conhecida Feira de Maio, em Leiria. Esta feira tem um pouco de tudo, contendo ocupações que despertam o interesse as diferentes faixas etárias. Aos mais novos é proporcionada uma fantástica experiência nos divertidos carroceis. Já os mais velhos podem usufruir da zona comercial da feira, com produtos de vestuário, de alimentos e acessórios. Podem visitar, também, tendas de diversas associações e rouletes de farturas, cachorros quentes, pipocas e algodão doce. Pela noite, a família jantou nos restaurantes da feira, dirigindo-se, em seguida, para a zona dos concertos onde





assistiram a um recompensante concerto de uma artista portuguesa, conhecida internacionalmente, a Aurea, e para terminar uma atuação de um rancho típico.

Depois de passarem estes momentos agradáveis, os filhos do clic decidiram aproveitar o resto da noite nas diversões, enquanto isso os pais acharam por bem conviver mas um pouco, visitando a zona comercial.

Antes de deixarem a Feira, a família Clic reuniu-se junto à zona das roulettes, para comerem uma última e deliciosa fartura.

Portugal National Day

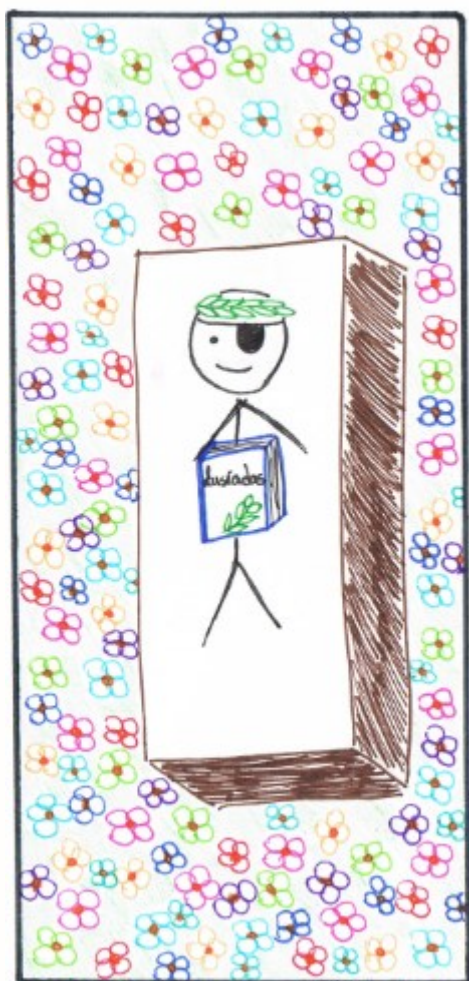
All of the families celebrate on 10th June, the day of Portugal, known as well as day of Camões and the clic family isn't an exception. This day remember the death of the great poet Luis Vaz de Camões known by the book *Os Lusíadas*, one of the books that relates the adventures and the Portuguese discovers praising them, being also, a day dedicated to the guard Saint of Portugal.

This ceremony is assisted by the President, by the First Minister, Ambassadors and other honorable figures. During the celebrations it also happen several military ceremonies, many cultures expositions, musical concerts, processions and fun parades.



The celebration is done both in Portugal and on foreign countries where there are Portuguese emigrants as on Canada and on United Kingdom. This year the family clic may assist to a renowned fado concert of Mariza , in Leiria , accompanied by grilled sardines with peppers and a good port wine . They heard also a representation of the chapters I to IV of the book *Os Lusíadas* , in which depicted the history of Portugal , who left the children of the Click very curious.

Dia de Portugal



Todas as famílias festejam, a 10 de junho, o Dia de Portugal, também conhecido como o Dia de Camões, e a família clic não é exceção. Este dia celebra a morte de um grande poeta português, Luís Vaz de Camões, conhecido pela obra *Os Lusíadas*, uma das obras que relata as aventuras e as descobertas dos portugueses enaltecendo-as, sendo também, um dia dedicado ao Santo Anjo da Guarda de Portugal.

Esta cerimónia é presidida pela Presidente da República, pelo Primeiro Ministro, pelos Embaixadores e outras figuras ilustres. Durante as celebrações, ocorrem, também, diversas cerimónias militares, inúmeras exposições culturais, concertos musicais, cortejos e desfiles divertidos.

A celebração é feita tanto em Portugal, como em países estrangeiros onde existem portugueses emigrados, como o Canadá e o Reino Unido.

Este ano a família Clic pode assistir a um ilustre concerto de fado da Mariza, em leiria, acompanhado de umas sardinhas assadas com pimentos e um bom vinho do Porto. Ouviu também uma representação dos cantos I a IV da obra Os Lusíadas, nos quais é retratada História de Portugal, que deixou os filhos do clic muito curiosas.





Romanian Stories

“Datina” Festival

The winter holidays have always been accompanied by a great outpouring of joy. And how not to enjoy yourself when you know that the Son of God was born to exalt man to light and that the whole period of holidays means old customs and traditions, meeting the beloved ones, decorated fir-trees, presents. But the most exciting moment is for everyone the question: “Would you like to hear the carol singers?”. This question resonates in our school every year, in December, during the “Datina” Festival Contest.

The participants create a unique atmosphere and an intense emotional experience. Through carols, religious plays which glorify the birth of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the students relive the miracle that took place in the cave of Bethlehem. At the same time, there are presented specific customs of our county which mark the arrival of the New Year: games with masks (“the goat”, “the bear”), “haiducii”, “jienii”(traditional dances), “plugusorul”, “sorcova” (traditional poems for the New Year’s arrival). Dressed up in costumes of a peerless fantasy embodying mythological creatures or holding in their hands bells, the students wish us health and prosperity.



On this year's edition, Ana and Ion have prepared a traditional poem - "plugușor". They are wearing traditional costumes: Ana wears over her hand a black scarf with red flowers, and Ion has a black fur cap. Ann is holding in her hands a "sorcovă" (a stick decorated with artificial flowers) and Ion a whip of braided silk thread. They have red cheeks because they walked a long way through frost but they are excited at the New Year's arrival along with many other children. In the examination room, it is getting quiet and two voices burst into wishes: *La ureche clopoței, ia strigați odată, măi/Hăi, hăi!/Anul vechi s-a încheiat, anul nou s-a luminat/Și ne-am gătit de urat/Bici din fir de mătase, bine v-am găsit acasă/Bici din fir de busuioc, sănătate și noroc!/Măine anul se-nnoiește/Vă urăm împărătește/Cum îi din bătrâni lăsat/Să v-aducă rod bogat/De pe câmpuri semănat,/Să răsară grâu de vară/Și să fie pace-n țară/Și la anul mai venim,/Anii toți ca să vă fie/În belșug și bucurie,/S-aveți parte de toate,/La mulți ani și sănătate./Opriți plugul, măi flăcăi, hăi, hăi!*

Everybody applauds frantically.



Festivalul Datina



Dintotdeauna, sărbătorile de iarnă au fost însoțite de o mare revărsare de bucurie. Și cum să nu te bucuri, când știi că

Fiul lui Dumnezeu S-a născut pentru a-l înalța pe om spre lumină și că întreaga perioadă a sărbătorilor înseamnă datini și obiceiuri străbune, întâlnirea celor dragi, brazi împodobiți, cadouri.

Dar cel mai emoționant moment este, pentru toată lumea, cel în care se aude întrebarea „Primiți colindătorii?”. Această întrebare răsună și în școala noastră, an de an în luna decembrie,

cu ocazia Festivalului concurs de obiceiuri și tradiții de iarnă *Datina*. Participanții creează o atmosferă unică, de intensă trăire emoțională. Prin intermediul colindelor, a scenetelor religioase care glorifică Nașterea Mântuitorului, elevii re trăiesc miracolul ce a avut loc în peștera de la Betleem. În același timp, sunt prezentate în festival obiceiuri specifice zonei Vasluiului prin care se marchează sosirea Anului Nou: jocurile cu măști (capra, ursul, mascații), haiducii, jienii, plugușorul și sorcova. Îmbrăcați în costume de o inegalabilă fantezie, întruchipând creaturi mitologice sau purtând în mâini clopoței și sorcove, elevii rostesc urări de sănătate, spor și belșug.



La ediția din acest an, Ana și Ion au pregătit un plugușor. Sunt îmbrăcați în costum popular, au în picioare opinci și în spate cojocile. Ana poartă pe cap o basma neagră cu flori roșii, iar Ion o căciulă de oaie, neagră. Ana ține în mână o sorcovă, iar Ion un bici împletit din fir de mătase. Au bujori în obraji, căci au mers prin ger o distanță destul de mare, dar sunt încântați la gândul că vor vesti noul an, alături de atâția alți copii. În sala de concurs se face liniște, două voci hotărâte izbucnesc în urări: *La ureche clopoței, ia strigați odată, măi/Hăi, hăi!/Anul vechi s-a încheiat, anul nou s-a luminat/Și ne-am gătit de urat/Bici din fir de mătase, bine v-am găsit acasă/Bici din fir de busuioc, sănătate și noroc!/Măine anul se-nnoiește/Vă urăm împărătește/Cum îi din bătrâni lăsat/Să v-aducă rod bogat/De pe câmpuri semănat,/Să răsară grâu de vară/Și să fie pace-n țară/Și la anul mai venim,/Anii toți ca să vă fie/În belșug și bucurie,/S-aveți parte de toate,/La mulți ani și sănătate./Opriți plugul, măi flăcăi, hăi, hăi!*

Pe holul școlii răsună aplauzele!

The Craftsmen Fair

It is interesting what human imagination can do with a little patience, skill and desire.

Annually, it is a feast for us when ordinary people from the countryside, present at the Craftsmen Fair things done skillfully, patiently, ingeniously and with lots of talent. All these hand-made gems contribute to continuously keeping alive the history of our people. As children, we take great pride in our folk designs, traditions and objects that define us as a nation. These "pearls " have roamed all around the world and have aroused wonder and love for the Romanian handmade beauties.

We, the children, don't have the slightest idea of the work done to create such an object. Some of us are lucky if we have grandparents in the countryside and we can learn from them how to make such things. This fair helps us understand and appreciate the manual art and everything that people can achieve painstakingly. The traditional products presented at the fair awaken deep feelings in all of us and he who dominates all these feels the pride of being a Romanian.



The two siblings, Ana and Ion, cannot miss from the Fair. This year they accompany their grandmother, a representative of the Pogonești freeholders' area in the culinary arts. Ana and Ion are wearing traditional costumes. They received them as gifts from their grandma not to ever forget the tradition and, at the beginning of September, they prepare themselves for the Fair, on the alleys of the Copou Garden.



They are excited about the bustle, the crowds of people who lean forward with great curiosity towards all the objects on display. Suddenly, the two children's attention is captured by the fair's host who opens the manifestation like this: *"Dear people from Vaslui, once upon a time, in the world of old crafts, there was the story of the Romanians from Moldova. The story begins in the countryside, at the grandparents, great-grandparents, too. It's full of traditions, customs, the wood and clay saga, of folk costumes and tasty dishes. We can take the story further and the Craftsmen Fair is an opportunity in this respect."*

"Nice speech, really touchy! Ana whispered in deep emotion.

"Wouldn't you like to discover together this wonderful world of traditions?" asked Ion, biting from a piece of cheese-cake taken from his grandma's basket.

They stopped first at the fabrics and Romanian folk costumes stand. All these are handmade from flax or hemp threads, with geometric or floral decorations. Here they learned that rugs, carpets, *lăicerele* (carpets woven manually in special wooden looms), towels, *ițarii* (traditional folk trousers for men manually woven from wool), girdles, aprons woven in a loom, and the floral patterns of the costumes are sewn with a needle also manually. These fabrics decorate the interior of the peasant houses. Without a second thought, the two children bought each one a small *trăistuță* (a small purse woven in a loom and then sewn manually in different bright colours).

Their attention was suddenly drawn by the wooden objects necessary for everyday basic needs. They found out that wood manufacturing is an occupation which dates back in the ancient times, an occupation of the craftsmen such as: carpenters, coopers, potters making with their skillful hands many household objects, but also houses, churches and traditional furnishings. Children admired a fir-tree wooden table carved manually.





They stopped then at the potters' table: clay crafts of all kinds, large and small, for ornament or household use. The potters told the children that in order to master a skill you must dedicate yourself to it with patience and courage.

They returned to the freeholders of Pogonesti, where their grandmother offered them to taste all sorts of goodies: *Poale-n brâu* pies (cheese pie rolled in a particular traditional way), Moldavian stew, sarmale (traditional Romanian dish made of mincemeat rolled in cabbage/vine leaves), warm polenta.

"Do you know, Ana, I think the village remains the vast creative source of the Romanian folk culture. It is our tradition keeper!"

In order to make the fair atmosphere even more festive a show of Romanian folk dances and songs began on the stage of the Copou Garden.

The two siblings have understood that it takes great skill, talent and intelligence in order to keep the tradition of folk crafts as only through tradition we can call ourselves a nation. We have the moral duty we continue what our ancestors made and to promote the beauty and nobility of the Romanian people.

TÂRGUL MEȘTERILOR

POPULARI

Este interesant ce poate face imaginația omului, cu puțină răbdare, pricepere și dorință...

Annual, este o sărbătoare pentru noi, atunci când oamenii simpli, de la țară, ne prezintă la Târgul Meșterilor Populari, lucruri făcute cu măiestrie, răbdare, pricepere și mult talent. Toate aceste nestemate făcute de mâinile lor contribuie la continuarea și păstrarea vie a istoriei poporului nostru. Copii fiind, ne mândrim cu modelele noastre folclorice, cu tradițiile și cu obiectele ce ne definesc ca națiune. Aceste „perle” au colindat globul și au stârnit uimire și iubire față de iscusința românașului.

Noi, copiii, nu avem habar de munca depusă pentru crearea unui obiect cât de mic. Unii dintre noi suntem norocoși dacă avem bunici la țară și putem să învățăm de la ei cum se fac aceste lucruri. Acest târg ne ajută să înțelegem și să apreciem arta manuală și tot ceea ce omul poate realiza cu migală. Produsele tradiționale prezentate la târg trezesc sentimente profunde în fiecare dintre noi și cel care le domină pe toate este mândria de a fi român.

De la târg nu pot lipsi cei doi frați, Ana și Ion, care în acest an o însoțesc pe bunica lor, reprezentanta Răzeșilor din Pogonești pe artă culinară. Ana și Ion poartă costume populare tradiționale. Le-au primit în dar de la bunica pentru a nu uita nicicând de tradiție și la fiecare început de septembrie se pregătesc de Târg, pe aleile Copoului.

Aceștia sunt încântați de forfotă, de mulțimea de oameni care se apleacă cu interes asupra tuturor obiectelor expuse. Deodată, cei doi copii sunt atrași de gazda târgului care deschide în acest fel manifestarea: *Iubiți vasluieni, a fost odată ca niciodată, în lumea meșteșugurilor de altădată, povestea românului moldovean. Povestea începe la țară, la bunici, la străbunici. E plină cu tradiții, obiceiuri, epopeea lemnului și a lutului, a costumelor populare și a bucatelor gustoase. Putem duce povestea mai departe și Târgul Meșterilor Populari este o oportunitate în acest sens.*

- Reușit discurs, de-a dreptul sensibil! Șopti Ana cu glasul emoționat.

- Nu vrei să descoperim lumea aceasta a tradițiilor? o întreabă Ion, mușcând dintr-o bucată de plăcintă cu brânză sustrasă din coșul bunicii.

S-au oprit mai întâi la standul cu țesături și costume populare românești, lucrate manual din fir de in sau de cânepă, cu decorațiuni geometrice sau florale. Aici au aflat că covoarele, carpetele, lăicerele, ștergarele, ițarii, brâiele, catrințele sunt țesute la război, iar motivele florale ale costumelor sunt cusute cu acul. Aceste țesături decorează interiorul caselor țărănești. Fără să stea pe gânduri, cei doi și-au cumpărat câte o trăistuță.

Le-a atras atenția și standul cu obiecte din lemn, necesare traiului de zi cu zi. Au aflat că prelucrarea lemnului este o îndeletnicire din vechi timpuri a meșterilor populari care se ocupă de tâmplărit, dogărit, rotărit, scoțând din mâinile lor dibace obiecte pentru uz gospodăresc, dar și pentru construcții de case, biserici și mobilier tradițional. Copiii au admirat o masă din lemn de brad sculptată manual.

S-au oprit apoi la masa olarilor: vase de tot felul, mici și mari, pentru ornament sau de uz casnic, din lut. Olarii le-au spus copiilor că pentru a ajunge să stăpânești un meșteșug trebuie să i te dedici cu răbdare și curaj: *Meșteșugul vreme cere, nu se-nvață din vedere!*

S-au întors la Răzeșii din Pogonești, unde bunica oferea spre degustare tot felul de bunătăți: plăcinte poale-n brâu, tochitură moldovenească, sarmale calde cu măămăliguță.

– Știi, Ana, cred că satul rămâne marea sursă creatoare a culturii populare românești. Este păstrătorul tradiției noastre!

Pentru ca atmosfera târgului să fie și mai deosebită, pe scena din Parcul Copou a început un spectacol de dansuri populare românești și de cântece populare.

Cei doi frați au înțeles că pentru a păstra spiritul tradiției populare și al meșteșugurilor e nevoie de multă pricepere, talent și inteligență, deoarece prin tradiție se poate salva numele neamului nostru. Avem obligația morală să continuăm noi ceea ce au realizat strămoșii noștri și să promovăm frumusețea și noblețea poporului român.

The “Constantin Tănase” International Festival of Humour

Autumn atmosphere. The roadside trees that attracted everyone's gaze during summer now are standing abandoned and empty of leaves and birds. A last leaf is falling off the thin and withered branch and it starts floating on windy wings, joining the others, fallen before. Vaslui's town center is woven by rust and golden leaves, supporting the clear, silent sky... terribly silent.

One beautiful October day, Ana and Ion arrived in the city. These two children are holding in their hands some fliers which represent nothing else but the programme of the Festival of Humour “Constantin Tănase” from Vaslui. The previous school year, the two siblings learnt many things about this festival and they asked their parents to go with them to the theatre. Ana finished the 8th grade and now she is a student at a high school in town, and Ion, a year younger, dreams of going to the same high school as his sister.

There is still time till the beginning of the performance, theatre lovers haven't begun to appear yet, so that the two share impressions about the festival.

“I have never thought that Vaslui hosts a theatre festival and we could have come so many times!” confesses Ana to her brother.

"You can really believe that, since 1970, every two years, this town have been celebrating Constantin Tănase, a famous and appreciated actor for his humorous talent: *"Ne-am trezit din hibernare/Și-am strigat cât am putut/Sus Cutare! Jos Cutare!/Și cu asta ce-am făcut?//Am dorit cu mic, cu mare/Și-am luptat cum am știut/S-avem nouă guvernare/Și cu asta ce-am făcut?"*

"True humour! But I like his quote: *Ideals resemble the stars: you cannot reach them, instead they can guide you*".

"This is the real reason for the birth of this festival: for good humour and comedy."

The leaflet contains much information about the festival. Initiated under the direction of Valentin Silvestru, the festival has been attracting comedians from all over the country since 1980 and ending in the year 2014, the 23rd edition. Every two years, in October, cultural people, creators in various fields, bearing the seal of participation in emphasizing optimism and good humour, features of guests here in Vaslui, which regains rhythmically, with respectful sympathy, the condition of capital of humour. The festival includes the interpretation section, satirical and humorous literature, international exhibition of caricature with two sections: satirical graphic and portraits; humorous photographic art salon "RIDENDO FLASH", humorous theatre and comedy.

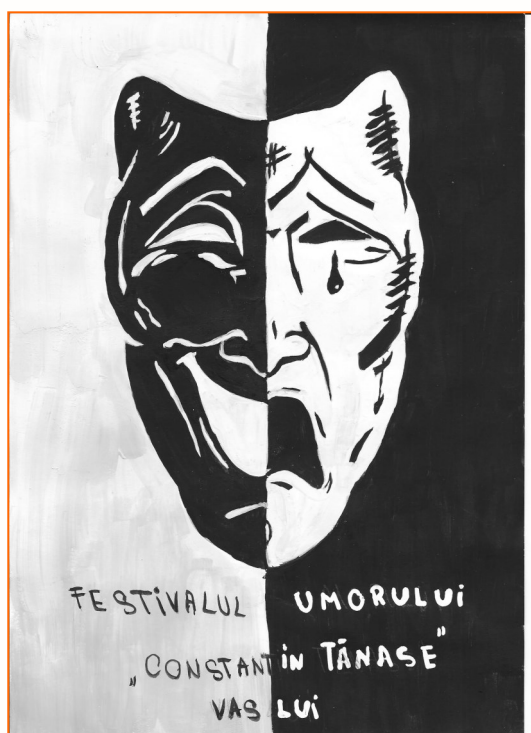
"You know, Ion, that tomorrow morning I will attend together with my classmates a radio theatre workshop at the County Library. The activity will consist of voice transformation technology and it is included in the festival events."

"Ana, I can't wait to go and see the exhibition of caricature and humorous photo in the lobby of the Culture House."

"Let's go!"

The two siblings have spent unforgettable moments watching the play "The Orphans" by Denis Kelly, starring Simona Cuciureanu. The intense applauses and cheerful faces of the spectators confirm this.

On the stage of the Culture House the curtain has fallen in the penultimate day of the festival. It's a late autumn evening.



Festivalul International de Umor Constantin Tănase

Atmosferă de toamnă. Copacii de pe marginea drumului care astă-vară atrăgeau privirea tuturor, acum stau stingheri și goi, părăsiți de frunze și de păsări. O ultimă frunză se desprinde de pe ramura subțire și veștejită și începe să plutească dusă de vânt, alăturându-se celorlalte, căzute înainte. Centrul orașului Vaslui este țesut din frunze ruginii și aurii, sprijinind cerul senin și tăcut ... nespus de tăcut.

Într-o frumoasă zi de octombrie, Ana și Ion au poposit în oraș, dar nu oricum. Aceștia țin cu sfiiciune în mâini niște pliante care nu reprezintă altceva decât programul Festivalului de Umor Constantin Tănase de la Vaslui. În anul școlar precedent, cei doi frați au învățat multe lucruri despre acest festival și le-au cerut părinților să-i aducă și pe ei la teatru. Ana a terminat clasa a VIII-a și este de acum elevă la un liceu din oraș, iar Ion, cu un an mai mic, visează să ajungă licean tot aici.

Mai este ceva timp până să înceapă reprezentația, iubitorii de teatru nu au început încă să apară, așa că cei doi împărtășesc impresii despre festival.

Nu am crezut niciodată că orașul Vaslui este gazda unui festival de teatru și când te gândești că am fi putut veni de atâtea ori! ... mărturisește Ana fratelui ei, Ion.

- Îți dai seama, din anul 1970, din doi în doi ani, în acest oraș este celebrat Constantin Tănase, actor recunoscut și apreciat pentru talentul său umoristic: Ne-am trezit din hibernare/Și-am strigat cât am putut/Sus Cutare! Jos Cutare!/Și cu asta ce-am făcut?//Am dorit cu mic, cu mare/Și-am luptat cum am știut/S-avem nouă guvernare/Și cu asta ce-am făcut?

- Adevărat umor! Dar mie îmi place citatul său Idealurile se aseamănă cu stelele: nu poți ajunge la ele, în schimb te poți orienta.

- Iată că din acest motiv a luat naștere festivalul, pentru umorul și comedia de calitate.

În pliant sunt multe informații despre festival: Inițiat sub conducerea lui Valentin Silvestru, atrage comedienți din toată țara începând cu anul 1980 și a ajuns în anul 2014, la ediția a XXIII-a.

Din doi în doi ani, în luna octombrie, oameni de cultură, creatori în cele mai diverse domenii purtând pecetea participării la sublinierea optimismului și a bunei dispoziții caracteristice românului, colective teatrale, competitori întru perfecționarea mijloacelor artistice pentru transpunerea grafică, literară, fotografică, scenică a umorului, cu toții sunt oaspeții Vasluiului, care-și recapătă ritmic, cu respectuoasă simpatie, condiția de capitală a umorului românesc. Festivalul cuprinde secțiuni de interpretare, literatură satirico-umoristică, salon internațional de caricatură cu două secțiuni-grafică satirică și portrete șarjă; salon de artă fotografică umoristică "RIDENDO FLASH", teatru umoristic, film de comedie.

- Să știi, Ion, că mâine dimineață eu particip împreună cu colegii mei la Biblioteca Județeană la atelierul de teatru radiofonic. Am înțeles că activitatea va consta în transformarea vocii cu ajutorul tehnologiei și este cuprinsă în manifestările festivalului.

- Ana, eu abia aștept să intrăm pentru a vedea și expoziția de caricatură și fotografie umoristică din holul Casei de Cultură!

Să mergem!

Cei doi frați au petrecut momente de neuitat urmărind piesa Orfanii de Denis Kelly, având în distribuție pe Simona Cuciu-reanu. Aplauzele intense și fețele vesele ale spectatorilor confirmă acest lucru.

Pe scena Casei de Cultură s-a lăsat cortina în această penultimă zi a festivalului. Este o seară târzie de toamnă.





Spanish Stories

EASTER

In March, the Click family went to Easter in Fernán Núñez, where it is celebrated, since Palm Sunday, the Passion, death and resurrection of Jesus of Nazaret. These days, sculptures representing different moments of life and death of Jesus, are taken to the streets on an ornate with flowers and candles and they are carried on the shoulders of a group of men and women. The sculptures are accompanied by a band and many faithful Nazarenes.

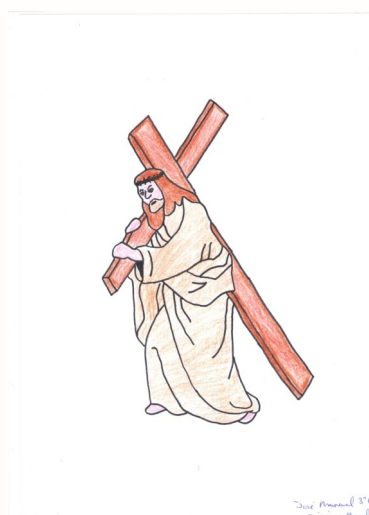
The sculpture that impressed more Juan and Ana is 'Procesión del Silencio' on Good Friday, in which it is showed the death of Jesus. Everybody observe in silence and this silence is only broken by the sound of the chains that are carried by the Nazarenes in their feet.



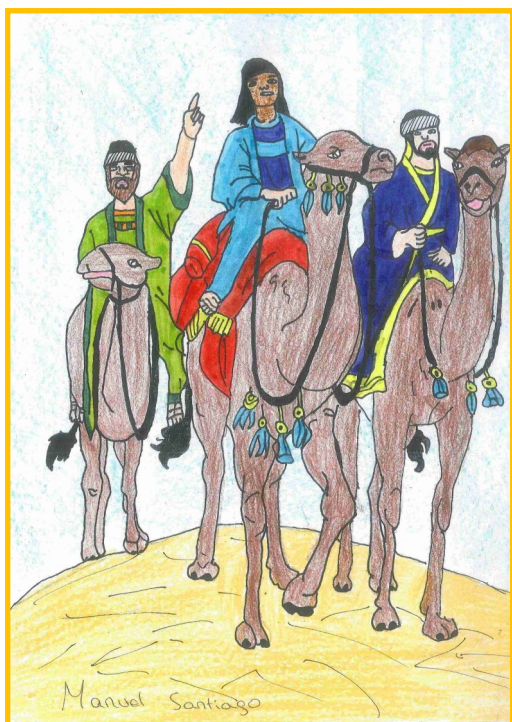
SEMANA SANTA

En marzo, la familia Click asiste a la Semana Santa en Fernán-Núñez donde se celebra, desde el Domingo de Ramos al Domingo de Resurrección, la pasión, muerte y resurrección de Jesús de Nazaret. En estos días, esculturas que representan diferentes momentos de la vida y muerte de Jesús, son sacadas a la calle sobre una estructura adornada con flores y cirios y llevadas a hombros por un grupo de hombres y mujeres. Estas esculturas, llamadas pasos, son acompañadas por una banda musical y muchos fieles vestidos de nazarenos.

El paso que más les impresiona a Juan y Ana es la llamada "Procesión del Silencio" del Viernes Santo, en la que se muestra el momento de la muerte de Jesús. Todos los presentes guardan un gran silencio que sólo es roto por el sonido de las cadenas que los nazarenos llevan a sus pies.



THE EPIPHANY



The fifth of January, the Click family celebrate Epiphany with some friends in Córdoba. They went out and they found the Three Wise Men Parade with their pages, people dress up in the parade. From float, the Three Wise Men threw sweets, streamers and toys for everybody. Juan could catch a ball and Ana took a lot of sweets. Later, they went to their Grandmother's house and they ate the traditional cake 'Roscon de Reyes'. In the cake, between the cream, is hidden a bean and a doll. Ana's piece had the bean, so that, she should pay the cake, as it is traditional. Juan was lucky because, he found the doll and he was crowned king.

This night, Juan and Ana went to bed early and very excited because, the Three Wise men will visit their house to leave Christmas presents.

EPIFANÍA DE LOS REYES MAGOS.

El día 5 de enero, la familia Click celebran el Día de Reyes con algunos amigos en Córdoba. Salieron a la calle y vieron la Cabalgata de Los Reyes Magos, con sus pajes, personas disfrazadas para el desfile. Desde las carrozas, Los Reyes, tiraban caramelos, serpentinas, dulces y juguetes para toda la gente que los estaba viendo. Juan consiguió atrapar un balón y Ana recogió muchos caramelos de todo tipo.



Después, Ana y Juan fueron a casa de su abuela y tomaron el tradicional dulce, el roscón de reyes.

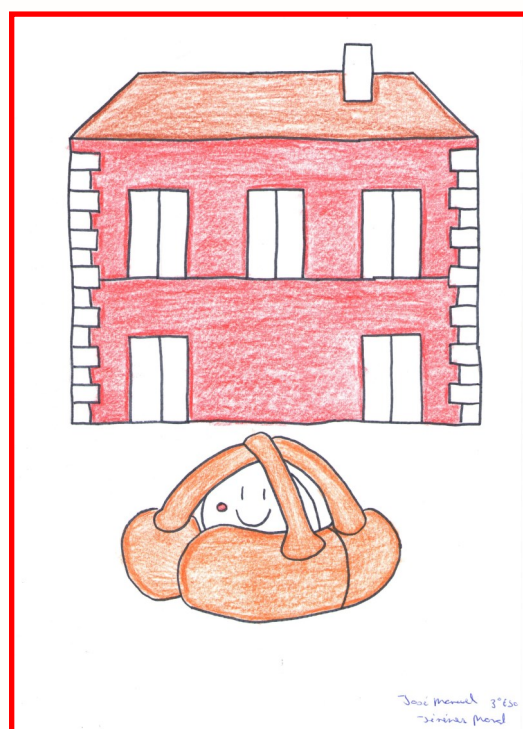
Dentro del dulce, entre la nata, se esconde un haba y una figurilla. El trozo de Ana contenía el haba, por lo que, tal y como manda la tradición, tuvo que pagar el dulce. Juan fue más afortunado, porque encontró la figurilla y se coronó como rey.

Esa noche, Juan y Ana se fueron pronto a la cama con la ilusión de saber que esa madrugada, los Reyes Magos visitarían su casa para dejarles regalos.

JUEVES LARDERO

This four of February the Click Family visit Fernán Núñez, where it is celebrated 'Jueves Lardero'. It is a local party which is celebrated since the fifteen century when the Duke of this village took part in the battle for the capture of Granada. To celebrate the victory he ordered to prepare a party with every neighbour of the village and they cook a special cake which is know since then as 'Hornazo'

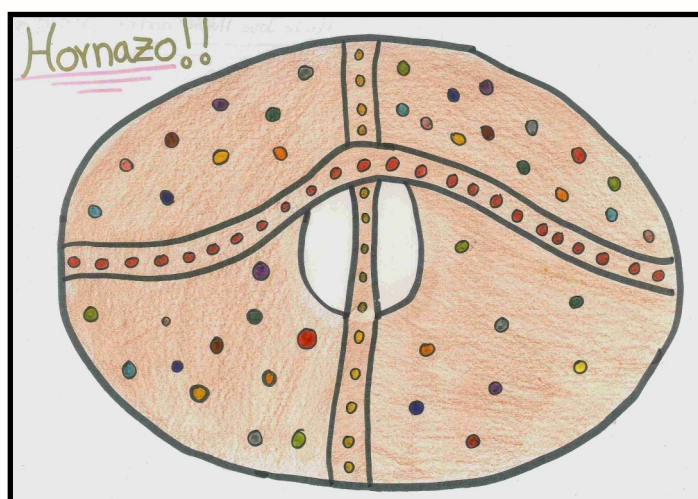
All the village go to the countryside and organize a pic-nic during all day, Juan and Ana went for a walk with friends and found a burrow. Everybody hid and they could observe as a rabbit came out. Juan tried to catch it but Ana prevented him. In the evening everybody come back home exhausted after run so much in the countryside.



JUEVES LARDERO

El 4 de febrero, la familia Click visitan Fernán- Núñez donde se festeja del día de Jueves Lardero. Se trata de una fiesta local que se celebra desde finales del siglo XV cuando el duque de esta localidad ganó una importante batalla y para celebrarlo ordenó preparar una fiesta para todos los vecinos del pueblo y que se cocinara un dulce especial el cual se conoce desde entonces como "Hornazo".

Todo el pueblo se va al campo y organizan un almuerzo que suele durar todo el día. Juan y Ana fueron a dar un paseo con sus amigos y encontraron una madriguera. Todos se escondieron y pudieron observar cómo un conejo salía de ella. Juan intentó cogerlo pero Ana se lo impidió. Al anochecer, todos volvieron a casa agotados de tanto correr y jugar durante todo el día por el campo.



End of the stories

Dissemination product created with the financial support of the European Commission Erasmus+ KA2 , Strategic Partnerships in School Education.

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