



Poland



England



Lithuania



Romania



Turkey

# YOUNG JOURNALISTS



Dear Readers,

You are holding the issue of school newspaper which was designed and written by students of Junior High School in Proszowice. This newspaper is a part of Comenius project which is conducted by five European countries: Poland - coordinator, England, Lithuania, Romania and Turkey. The title of the project is REPORT YOURSELF - YOUNG EUROPEAN JOURNALISTS.

We hope that you will enjoy reading about Poland!

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# Polish superstitions

## Sprinkled salt

If someone throws salt in your eye that person want to protect you from many misfortune, which are caused of split salt and that means the end of God's care and the end of meeting your family and friends. If you sprinkle salt you have to throw it over your left shoulder, three times a pinch of salt. Another belief says that if you throw a pinch of salt over your right shoulder, you won't have any trouble.



## Walking under ladder

Polish people think that walking under a ladder leads to misery. Why? Well, people used to use ladders for help person, who wanted to die. They hung themselves. People avoid walking under a ladder - it means a risk of death. If an unmarried woman walks under it - it means that she'll never find a husband. Walking under a ladder is a prediction of death.

## Broken mirror

Long time ago our ancestors believed that the human soul lives in mirror. When the mirror was destroyed, the soul couldn't return to the body. Broken mirror was cleaned with eyes closed, because review in it has given illness or death. Now people believe in seven years of bad luck. Some people think that's a truth, but others totally don't care. And what do you believe?



## Throwing coins

When you are in interesting place for example Eiffle Tower, the legend says that if you throw coin over your left shoulder, you'll come back to this place. Lots of coins are thrown to fountains in many different places.

# Valentine's Day

Valentine's Day is one of day of lovers. more famous days In the World. This is Everyone knows a symbols of Valentine's: hearts, amor, red color. We can celebrate this day at 14 February. This is happy time when people give each other red roses, cards and small gifts.

This day has spread around the World since XVIII century thanks to Walter Scott. Earliest Valentine's Day came in Middle Ages to the West and the South Europe. The East and the North part of Europe began celebrate this day much later.

To Poland Valentine's reached in 9's 20th century. Then, this day began compete with "Ivan Kupala Day" - native slavic lovers day.



# Christmas time

Christmas is a holiday in the winter. At 6 December The Santa Claus always comes and gives presents to The polite children.

The Christmas break is from 23rd December to 31st December.



The Christmas Eve is on December 24 and then we have grand dinner. We cook 12 dishes for example carp, poppy seed cake, borsh with ravioli. We break wafer sharing before dinner and after dinner we sing carols and give presents. We have pretty christmas tree too. At midnight we go on the midnight mass.

In the Christmas Day and the Boxing Day we go on mass and after it we meet our families. In the Christmas Day we usually watch a movie called the Home Alone.

This is all anniversary the birth of Jesus.



# Easter



Easter is one of the most important Christian festival commemorating the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. It is celebrated the first Sunday after the first spring full. (The exact calculation of the date on which begins Easter is given below).

## Easter's symbols and ornaments:

- Bread - also symbolizes the Body of Christ, is a sign of affluence
- Horseradish - along with butter is a symbol of bitterness and sweetness of the death and resurrection.
- Salt - a symbol of abundance and hospitality
- Meats - symbolize the ending of Lent. Pork, acc. Neweraniego symbolizes the 'liberation from the yoke of the rights of Orthodox Jews'

## Customs and traditions of Easter

Easter is probably the holidays, which are associated with the largest number of customs and traditions. This is a painting and the blessing of eggs, sharing the egg, Easter breakfast, Emmaus, Rękawka (Krakow fun in the Tuesday after Easter), śmigus-dyngus, Siuda Baba, funeral and hanging zuru herring at the end of Lent, hanging or drowning of Judas, Christmas orders.



# Harvest Festival



singing about him. The Harvest Festival accompanied an exhibition of agriculture, festivals, performance of folk band and dancing to the white morning.

Harvest Festival is an annual celebration in Poland which occurs when it's the main time of harvest. This festival have place in August and September in the city and village. The celebration of the harvest festival began at dawn wreath of grain left on the field, with bunches of red rowan, nuts, fruit, flowers and colored ribbons. Wreaths had got a lot of shape. Wreath is carried by men and women are dressed in folk costumes. The wreath is carried into the church to devote to it by the priest during Mass. While dedicate is wreath is also dedicate bread made by wheat. After the Mass wreath is carried to place where in the competition who made the best wreath on this day. Around the wreath the local band

## Saint Andrew's Day

Saint Andrew's Day is every year in 30th November. This day friends meet at evening to foretell. This are very different customs. For example the most popular fun is omen with shoes. It based on that everyone who takes part in the play takes off the right shoe and put one against another. The person whose shoe first passes the door the first, will get married.



Another one is omen with plates. We prepare four plates. Under plates we put: a cross (a symbol of religious life), a coin (a sign of richness), a ring (a symbol of an early marriage). The last plate remains empty, the person who choose it, won't get married.

The next play is omen with wax. Hot wax through the eye of the old key in a bowl of cold water. When wax hardens, it takes various forms. These shapes we light for so that it became a shadow on the wall. The shape of the wax may reveal who will be our partner in the future.



One of the play which we know is omen with apples. Everyone gets an apple. All takes the knife and strip off so that peels are the longest. Then they throw peels right hand behind him. The letter which reminds thrown peel, is the first letter of the name of future lover.



This day is a special occasion to organize the last dances before beginning Advent, a period in which we are looking forward to the coming of Christmas.

## New Year's Eve in Poland

In each country New Year's Eve celebrated the night on 31 December to 1 January. People bless Old Year and they welcome New Year. This is the time which are organized balls. Characteristic in Poland are also fireworks and firecrackers. There are many concerts in big cities too. At 0.00 a.m. all the people toast and wishes "Happy New Year!". In Poland name-day celebrate Sylvester. In Poland name this holiday comes from the name of the Pope – Sylwester I. The day of New Year is free of work. People stay at their homes and spend their time with family.

