

Súťaž Oxford University Press

Oxford University Press každoročne vyhlasuje súťaž vo vytváraní projektov v anglickom jazyku na rôzne témy. Za tohtoročnú hlavnú tému vybrali Sviatky a študenti IV. B sa podujali spracovať túto tému na hodinách angličtiny po svojom. Keďže už v roku 2011 pripravili predvianočný program „Živý Betlehem“, v roku 2012 oslavovali Deň študentstva spoznávaním špecialít britskej kuchyne a v roku 2013 pre vtedajších primánov pripravili oslavu sviatku anglofónnych krajín Halloween, ich projekt opisuje oslavu sviatkov v našej škole. Držte nám palce, víťaz bude známy koncom marca!

HALLOWEEN

Halloween is the creepiest time of the year. In Slovakia people usually don't celebrate this festival. Instead we have the festival of All Saints and a festival that commemorates our dead relatives. Since the Slovak educational Standards require students who leave school by taking 'Maturita' exams from English to know about the reality of English speaking countries, we have decided to approximate this holiday to the first graders in our school by organizing a Halloween party. What was it all about?



PHOTO 6

A good festival party should be well organized, shouldn't it?

Before we could organize this kind of event we had to think about all different kind of things in advance. They included:

1. signed parental consent which ensured the kids who were 11 could stay longer at school in the afternoon (the party ended at 6 p.m.),
2. decorations of the school which we did by painting posters with witches, pumpkins, owls, ghosts, etc. and we displayed them mainly at the places where the party took place,
3. we had to come up with activities the students would have to go through,
4. we had to ensure we had enough prizes not only for the winning team, but also for all participants,
5. and of course, we needed our headmaster's allowance 😊



PHOTO 9



PHOTO 7

It all started on the 24th of October 2013 at 4 p.m. First we had to divide the first graders (11 years old) into 4 groups and we took them to classrooms where they had to fulfil different tasks. The tasks included:

1. making up a cut up photograph which (when all put together) showed them where to find a treasure (a pocket of sweets),
2. playing a memory game,
3. the third one was guessing words defined/performed by us (different jobs, animals, fairytale characters...),
4. in the fourth classroom they got some information about Halloween in the USA and UK and they had to answer question in a Halloween test. All teams scored some points but they could also help their team by wearing a Halloween costume. We also enjoyed the evening and as proper hosts we were all dressed up in costumes ourselves.



PHOTO 8

What did we achieve?

- ☒ we enjoyed the party
- ☒ we realised we are responsible enough
- ☒ we could cooperate, discuss, debate about our classmates' proposals
- ☒ first graders got to know us
- ☒ they did different funny activities and had fun

FESTIVALS IN OUR SCHOOL

Christmas

We all know what the festival of Christmas is about but how do we celebrate Christmas in our school? We usually celebrate 'Christmas at school' on Friday before winter holiday. Every year we prepare a special programme, which includes performing traditional fairy tales, singing carols or reciting poems.



PHOTO 2

When we were the first year's students, we prepared Nativity scene. We made our scenery, too (polystyrene animals, cardboard houses and the comet). Some people were reciting, some playing instruments or reading parts of the Holy Bible which talk about the birth of Jesus Christ and others were dressed as the Holy family, three Wise men and shepherds. Days of learning the text by heart or where we should stand, brought us close together. The hard work was worth it.



PHOTO 1

FESTIVALS IN OUR SCHOOL

Students' Day

Background of the Festival

Students' Day became a festival that we Slovaks have been celebrating since 2001 on 17th November. It commemorates the events of the Velvet Revolution which ended 41 years of authoritarian communist rule in Czechoslovakia.

What happened?

In 1989 independent **student** leaders together with the Socialist Union of Youth (SSM/SZAJ) organised a mass demonstration to commemorate the **International Students' Day** (<http://17thnovember-internationaldayofstudents.weebly.com/>)

The Revolution started a week after the Berlin Wall fell. "Czechoslovak police brutally suppressed a **student-led** pro-democracy protest in Prague" (<http://www.britain.com.uk/what-velvet-revolution-protest-fail-moves-east-oxenfreew-communist-czechoslovakia-lives-25-1724962>), which brought about the downfall of the communist regime in Czechoslovakia.

At our school

We usually celebrate **The Student's Day** on the Friday preceding this bank holiday. We don't follow the curriculum on this day, instead we prepare interesting activities for other students and we have fun doing them.



PHOTO 4

How did we celebrate the festival in 2012?

In 2012, our class prepared a presentation of the British cuisine in English. The activities included:

- 1) preparing sandwiches;
- 2) we had a PowerPoint presentation that taught us and the other students 'cooking verbs' and the vocabulary of kitchen utensils;
- 3) we cooked traditional British breakfast, British national food fish and chips and
- 4) some of our classmates brought cakes which they had baked at home.

It went on very well, everyone wanted to taste our specialities. We learned many new things about typical recipes in Britain and had great time together, yum!

To make the scene even more British, our classmates who were presenting the activities were dressed in red, white and blue colours of the Union Jack and the room was also decorated with the UK's flag. We hope we made the festival interesting and attractive for our peers and friends – for all the students of our school!



PHOTO 5