

# The Mozart Times



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Dear readers,

The year 2017 is almost at its end. I hope that it was another beautiful and amazing year for all of you. But before it ends, we should commemorate events which happened. We should summarize what we have learnt or seen or felt new. How good has this year been? But above all, we should enjoy the most beautiful holiday of all year, Christmas.

So, what can you read about in this issue of our magazine? We remembered the anniversary of our school. Halloween is also worth a mention, so we wrote a little about this event. Our students also visited Poland a few months ago, so they share with you their experiences. But most of articles in our magazine are about Christmas of course. You can find a new fashion style for winter, or some cute gifts ideas, or recipe for sweet gingerbread cookies or read something about history.

Enjoy this issue and the Christmas Season! I wish you all good in the New Year 2018!

Your *Klaudi*



# Our trip to Poland

As you know, there is a group of students in our school who take part in an international partnership with Poland. And we had another chance to visit this beautiful country this October. This time Czech and Polish students explore the possibility of studying at Czech and Polish universities.

Our journey - yes, journey - started on 16<sup>th</sup> October. We had to catch a train from Pardubice, no problem, we had to catch another train in Ústí nad Orlicí and then we had to get on to a Polish train in Lichkov on the Czech-Polish border. And at this point our "journey" started because Polish trains are not as comfortable as ours.

We arrived at the main train station Wrocław Główny at 18:30 and our families were already waiting for us. Some of us knew the family that they were staying with, so it was a little funny to meet again and recognise the faces we'd already known. Our families transported us to their homes and offered some food.

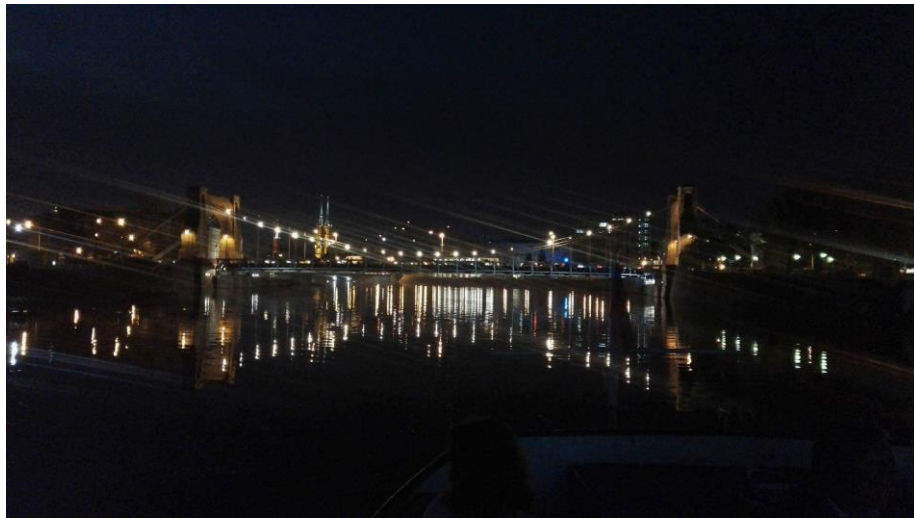
On Tuesday, we met at school at 9 am and introduced ourselves. After a small lunch at school we were invited to the University of Banking and the University of Lower Silesia whose rector prof. Hana Červinková, who happens to be from the Czech Republic, welcomed us and took perfect care of us. Many of the members of the group visited the most famous building in Wrocław called Sky Tower. It is a skyscraper built in a modern style - you know, many shops, cafes, restaurants, etc. At the top of the Sky Tower you have a chance to see whole Wrocław.



Wednesday morning was a little bit confused because there was a change of the plan and 2 boys from the group arrived at a wrong meeting point. A successful way to begin your day! When the group finally met, we listened to a presentation about the University of Wroclaw. After that we had lunch at school and then we moved to Panorama Raclawicka, which is a memorial of the battle of Raclawice. Another highlight of the day was a "Dwarf Hunt". Wroclaw is well-known for its dwarves - small sculptures were placed all over the city after the communist era ended but nobody knows why. We ended the day with a sail on a ship in the city centre which was arranged by Mrs. Lensmith for us.

The last university we visited was called Polytechnicka. There is a true curiosity: the university's students built a cableway from one bank of the river to the other one. We made a small walk around the city and then we arrived at the "Museum of Water" called Hydropolis. There was an amazing presentation about water and various ways in which it affects our world and lives. We had a really great time there. Thursday evening and night belong to parties, dinners and everything connected with fun.

The time of our return home was getting closer and we had to prepare for the train trip. We said goodbye to our friends and to Wroclaw. Once again, the Polish train did not disappoint us and the journey was complete.



Kryštof Šimek, G4.B





# The celebration of the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of our school

In 1997 the first students came to our school and in this year the long and successful journey of Mozart general upper secondary school began. As time went, the school became more and more popular, and it could compete with other secondary schools in Pardubice. So now our school is one of the most preferred schools in our city. Therefore, the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary was a really good reason for celebrations.

Everything was launched on Saturday of the fourth of November on the premises of “Mozarták”. Many graduates visited their old school, met their old teachers or just talked with their old schoolmates. The atmosphere was very pleasant and, I think, that everyone enjoyed this time very much. By the evening the celebrations were moved to “Dům techniky”, where people remembered the “old times” at “Mozarták”.

This special event culminated on the Monday of the sixth of November in Sukova Hall in “Dům hudby”. All students present, some of the former students, contemporary teachers and some of the former teachers met there to finish the celebrations. The program started at symbolic 10:15 a.m. The anniversary ceremony was also visited by the president of the Pardubice Region, Martin Netolický, his first deputy, Roman Línek and the former headmaster, Otto Horák. During the ceremony, students gave short performances and also some school documents were presented there. By the end of this celebration, School Almanac was baptized, and school's anniversary was closed successfully.



## Interview with some formers students:

**If you could select again, would you choose “Mozarták”?**

Student A: “Yes, absolutely!”

Student B: “Definitely yes!”

**Can you describe your studies there in one sentence?**

Student A: “I can’t describe it in only one sentence, but it was the best time of my life.”

Student B: “It was the best studies which I have had in my life.”

**Did studies there give you something good for life?**

Student A: “Everything!”

Student B: “It gave me a lot of friends for life, experience for further studies and I feel that “Mozarták” will always be my second family.”



**If you could select again, would you choose “Mozarták”?**

Student C: “Certainly, it was the Best decision after my selection of my elementary school.

😊”

Student D: “Yeah, it was really cool there.”

Student E: “Yeah, I think so.”

**Did this school prepare you well for university? And at what type of university do you study?**

Student C: “I could think about this question a lot, but I do not think that it prepared me in any special way. I chose “Matfyz” with specialization in mathematics and physics.”

Student D: “Yes and no, because the only person who really prepared me was Mr. Martin Plha. I choose Charles University and the Faculty of Physical Education and Sport.”

Student E: “I think that this school prepared me for entrance examinations, but for real studying no. I choose journalism in Olomouc.”



Klaudie Břeňová, G4.A



# Halloween

Do you like fear? Scary things? Horrors? Well, if yes, Halloween is the right thing for you. It is a celebration on the night of October 31<sup>st</sup>. The word *Halloween* or *Hallowe'en* dates to about 1745. Today's Halloween customs are thought to have been influenced by folk customs and beliefs from the Celtic-speaking countries. Children wear costumes and go to people's homes saying: "Trick or treat!" to ask for candy. Actually, it is not so widespread here as it is in the USA or Canada. But don't be afraid. It has become more popular in the last years. We carve pumpkins, create jack-o-lantern and put a light into it.

It is still not so common for children to go from the house to the house, but we celebrate it in another way. Halloween gives us another opportunity for having fun. We organize balls with dinner, drink and good music. It is perfect because you can change your identity for one night. Halloween costumes are traditionally modeled after supernatural figures such as vampires, monsters, ghosts, skeletons, witches, and devils. You can take inspiration from horror movies as I do. You find me in the picture below. Usually, they announce the first prize for the best mask at these balls. That is even more fun! I hope it will be celebrated more in the future!



Laura Gočaltovská, G4.A





# The most wonderful gingerbread cookies

## Ingredients:

- 3 cups flour
- 1 ½ teaspoons baking powder
- ¾ teaspoons baking soda
- Little bit of salt
- 1 tablespoon ground ginger
- 1 ¾ teaspoons ground cinnamon
- Little bit of ground cloves
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- ¾ cup dark brown sugar
- 1 large egg
- ½ cup molasses
- 2 teaspoons vanilla



## Directions:

1. In a small bowl, whisk together flour, baking powder, baking soda, salt, ginger, cinnamon, and cloves until well blended.
2. In a large bowl beat butter, brown sugar, and egg until well blended.
3. Add molasses, vanilla and continue to mix until well blended.
4. Gradually stir in dry ingredients until blended and smooth.
5. Divide dough in half and wrap each half in plastic and let stand at room temperature for at least 2 hours or up to 8 hours.
6. Preheat oven to 180°C. Prepare baking sheets.
7. Place 1 portion of the dough on a lightly floured surface.
8. Sprinkle flour over dough and rolling pin.
9. Cut out cookies with desired cutter.
10. Bake 1 sheet at a time for 7-10 minutes (the lower time will give you softer cookies).
11. Remove cookie sheet from oven and allow the cookies to stand until the cookies are firm enough to move to a wire rack.
12. After cookies are cool you may decorate them any way you like.



Klaudie Břeňová, G4.A

# WHAT TO WEAR: WINTER 2018

DARK AND COLD DAYS ARE HERE AGAIN. BUT THIS YEAR FIGHT THE SEASON WITH THE FOLLOWING TRENDS AND MAKE IT THE COZIEST WINTER EVER!



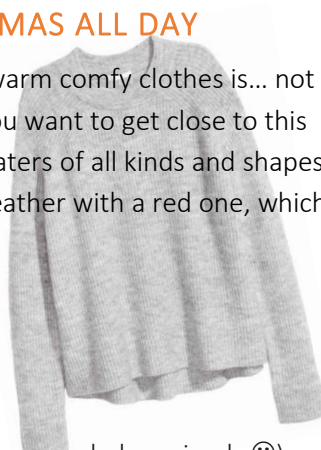
## 1. WARM EARS WITH NO BEANIE

The struggle is real – it is too cold to not wear a warm beanie but you just put on your best ponytail or messy bun. These two just do not go along. Do not worry, this year chunky headbands got your back!



## 2. PYJAMAS ALL DAY

Staying in your bed all day in warm comfy clothes is... not real most of the time. But if you want to get close to this feeling at least, oversized sweaters of all kinds and shapes are the best. Kill the boring weather with a red one, which is super cool this year!



## 3. FAUX FUR

Wearing fur (faux one of course, save baby animals ☹) on cold days is no revolution. But this winter you can choose from many styles and combos. Get yours as soon as possible and warm yourself up, no more freezing girl!





#### 4. NO MORE SORE THROAT

Okay I cannot promise you no bacteria in your neighbourhood but I can keep your neck safe from cold wind! Turtleneck is no more just a boring part of winter, but a stylish and handy piece which should not be missing in your wardrobe.



#### 5. BLANKET TO WEAR

Once again let's make the illusion you are spending your day wrapped up in a warm blanket. This time with a scarf. The bigger the better!



Barbora Szumowski, G4.A

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Gymnázium, Pardubice, Mozartova 449

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 <small>Učební výstava 379 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G1.B   vodní svět 1 202 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G3.C   základní škola mozarťova 402 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G3.A   procházka po světě 507 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G1.A   co se stane 585 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>
 <small>G2.C   lední 408 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G2.B   evakuace: jak šel čas 948 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G1.C   1.C má změny hlas 1 071 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G2.A   přírodní 871 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>BONUS 537 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>
 <small>G4.B   představení se vstoup 122 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G4.A + G   závěrečné představení 2 409 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G3.B   škola základní ženská 402 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G4.A + G4.B   Tělocvič - jak to máme ve škole 741 zhlédnutí • před 2 měsíci</small>	 <small>G3.C   V Nově 1 207 zhlédnutí • před 1 rokem</small>





Gymnázium, Pardubice, Mozartova 449







If you are planning to visit some Christmas markets this year, you should think about this one. The Christmas Market in Wrocław is one of the most beautiful in Europe, and the market square becomes the background of magical scenery. It takes place from 17 November until 22 December 2017 from 10 am to 9 pm.

The tradition of Christmas markets in Wrocław dates back to the sixteenth century. During Christmas, markets fill the historic centre of the city. The centre is decorated with a huge Christmas tree and illuminated by thousands of lights which make a very splendid atmosphere. There are a lot of stalls not only from Poland but also from France, Germany or Latvia. They offer a variety of products and all kinds of possible gifts like cakes, jewellery, Christmas decorations, woodwork, metalwork, natural linen bags, objects made of amber and silver, items made with precious stone, handmade ceramics or candles. Visitors can also sample some traditional Polish delicacies including *shashliks*, *szare kluchy*, *bigos*, *pierogis*, *gołąbki* and *kwaśnica*.

For children there is the Fairy-tale Wood which brings a variety of fairy tales, a Dwarf House, a workshop where they can learn how to paint and a mailbox where letters and postcards can be sent all the way to Santa Claus.

Christmas markets also offer an extensive programme and a lot of wonderful events such as concerts, parades and shows.



Magdaléna Malířová, G3.C

# St. Nicholas

St. Nicholas was a bishop who lived in the 4<sup>th</sup> century in Asia Minor. He was a very rich man and he was helping the poor and giving secret gifts to people who needed it. There are several legends about him, but we do not know if any of them are true.

One of them: There was a poor man who had three daughters. He was so poor, he did not have enough money for a dowry, so his daughters couldn't get married. One night, Nicholas dropped a stocking of gold down the chimney and into the house. So the oldest daughter was able to get married. This was repeated later with the second daughter. Finally, determined to discover the person who had given him the money, the father hid by the fire every evening until he caught Nicholas dropping in third stocking of gold. Nicholas told the man to not tell anyone what he had done, because he did not want to bring attention to himself. But soon the news got out and when anyone received a secret gift, it was thought that maybe it was from Nicholas.

Because of his kindness Nicholas was made a Saint. St. Nicholas is also saint of sailors. One story tells of him helping some sailors that were caught in a storm off the coast of Turkey. The storm was raging around them and all the men were terrified that their ship would sink. They prayed to St. Nicholas to help them. Suddenly, he was standing on the deck before them. He ordered the sea to be calm, the storm died away, and they were able to sail their ship safely to port.

Today no one really knows when he died, but it was on 6th December in 345 or 352.

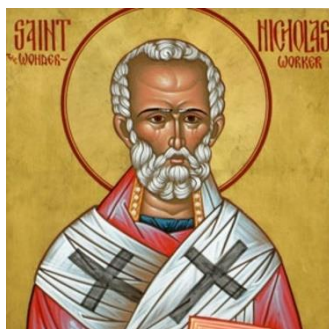
## *How Saint Nicholas became Santa Claus*

In the 16th Century in northern Europe, after the reformation, the stories and traditions about St. Nicholas became unpopular...but someone had to deliver presents to children at Christmas, so in England, he became 'Father Christmas' or 'Old Man Christmas', and in France, he was then known as 'Père Noël'.

In some countries like Austria, Germany and the Czech Republic, present giver became the 'Christkind' a golden-haired baby, with wings, who symbolizes the new born baby Jesus.

In the USA his name was 'Kris Kringle' (from the Christkind). Later, Dutch settlers in the USA took the old stories of St. Nicholas with them and Kris Kringle and St Nicholas became 'Sinterklaas' or as we now say 'Santa Claus'!

St. Nicholas became popular again in the Victorian era when writers, poets and artists rediscovered the old stories.



Natalie Karbašová, G4.A



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## ***DIY Last-Minute Christmas Gifts Ideas***

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Christmas is coming up soon and the spirit of love gently fills our hearts and homes. By this time, we all want to be kind and generous, and we want to give presents to our loved ones. Sometimes, it is very hard to think up a good gift, so here are some tips. If you have not enough money to buy them, or you just want to give a gift from heart, follow these steps and do them yourself.

### **Candy Jar**

This one is very simple and cute. You will need some jars with lids, glue, paper, ribbons, candies and anything you want to decorate with. Fill the jars with candies and tie some ribbons around their lids. Then use paper, glue and other stuff you have prepared. You can, for example, make it look like a reindeer or a snowman.



### **Peppermint Body Scrub**

You will need peppermint oil, granulated sugar, coconut oil and a plastic jar. Measure out  $\frac{1}{4}$  cup of coconut oil and heat it up in a microwave until it has liquefied. Put half a cup of granulated sugar into the coconut oil and then mix them together. Add in a few drops of peppermint oil and stir that in so it is evenly distributed. Lastly, transfer your scrub into the jar. It leaves your skin feeling silky and soft.





### **Jar of Love**

This is a great gift for your friend. Cut several pieces of paper. Write something nice or something you really appreciate about that person on every piece of the paper. Roll them up and put them into the jar. You can also decorate it with some ribbons. Tell your friend to open the jar every time they are sad.



### **Cinnamon Stick Candle**

Bought candle would be nicer if you decorated it. Put some cinnamon sticks around it, and bind it with a ribbon or a string. You can also add some jingle bells, cones, mistletoe or holly.



### **Christmas Card**

This is the most basic gift of all, but even a little note of happy wishes can make somebody feel loved. Take the paper and scissors, and create a beautiful Christmas card. Do not forget that the best Christmas wishes are ones that you write from the heart.



Magdaléna Malířová, G3.C



# Christmas advice

So, it's November and Christmas is getting closer again. And as always, we are surrounded by many commercials, shopping fever spreads like a dangerous virus and some of us have already bought presents, but most of us still wait for inspiration that will help them to choose, just in time, that special dreamed thing that will make someone happy.

I know this probably looks like another commercial more than anything else, but at this time shops are full of tempting offers, so it's much more difficult to keep cool. Some of brave explorers of shopping centers are really close to getting crazy, all alleys in shops have changed into a jungle full of predators waiting for the best opportunity to grab their prey and escape from that place with it and put it under their tree.

Another big challenge is the purchase of a Christmas tree at last the moment when the rest of trees are too expensive or look even worse than deciduous trees in winter.

But despite of this huge pressure, please do something for yourself and remember what this is all about, spend some time with the people that you love and have compassion for people that surround you. Spend "nice time" together and let know people who you love that you love them. Do any good deed to make the world a better place for life. And maybe the most important, have fun.

Dan Zelenka, G4.A

