

AMAZON TIMES

VOLUME 1, ISSUE 3

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Dear readers,

In December's issue we have prepared some very interesting articles for you. You can read about the election in the USA. At the end of October, we had lots of fun on the adaptation course, so we mustn't forget on it in this issue. And you can read much more.

On behalf of the editorial team I wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Thank You very much.

You lead editor,
Julie Dobešová

Christmas

Christmas is the celebration of Jesus Christ's birth. The Czech Christmas high day is considered to be Christmas Eve, on December 24. It brings the greatest joy to kids who look forward to a decorated Christmas tree and gifts to be brought by Father Christmas.

There are many customs connected with Christmas:

- Gifts are placed under a coniferous tree decorated with glass and straw decorations.
- Cookies are baked.
- People sing noels (songs about Jesus Christ's birth).
- The traditional Christmas dish is fish (usually Carp) soup, potato salad, and fried Carp.
- People visit Church.

However, nowadays Christmas is more a family holiday than a religious event. Christmas should be the most beautiful feast of the whole year. A feast of rest, peace, and ease.

Zora Secova

Thanksgiving Party

On November 27th we celebrated American thanksgiving. In the morning we studied as usual, but after lunch we began our Thanksgiving party. We read about the history of American Thanksgiving. Then we made Indian headdress with Indian names. We wrote what we were thankful for on two feathers. Drama Club had a nice play. We played a lot of games: chubby bunny, twister, bobbing for apples and searching for grapes. The vegetable creation was another very fun activity. We also had several other activities. Before dinner we sang songs. Dinner was excellent, we had a lot of great food, but the best was the pumpkin pie. This day was super.

Julie Dobešová and Sabina Boubelová

Schola Pragensis

On the 20th and 21st of November our school participated in Schola Pragensis. This convention was for the students, who are graduating from elementary school. The students go to see all of the highschools in Prague. There were eight students from our school that represented us: Julie, Daniel, Bety, Elizabeth, David, Ann, Eliska and Helen. On booth Thursday and Friday we had a 30 minute program where we talked about our school, played games and did a tongue twister. At our booth we recruited a lot of new students. Our booth was the best booth of the convention!

David Trachta

What are you interested in during your free time?

I do not have free time – 49%
Sports – 30%
Internet, TV – 13.5%
Independent study – 5%
Books – 2.5%

Sabina Boubelová

Flooding in Venice, Italy

Venice, Italy experienced the biggest flooding in the last 22 years. There was so much flooding that an additional 1.56 meters of water was added to the canal system in certain areas of Venice. On December 1, 2008 after 12 pm there was an unexpected change in the direction of the wind which was the cause of the flooding. On December 2, 2008 the water level began to recede and return to normal.

David Trachta

Adaptation Course for Amazon

On Thursday, the 30th of October, the students went on a school trip. Recreation Centre Palestra was in the middle of the forest in a protected landscape area Křivoklátsko close to the town Nižbor. We stayed in a cottage and we found that there was no signal for mobile. But, it turned out to be better than we had thought. At first we played games all together, eventually we were split into four groups. In these groups we began to compete for the treasure of the Amazon. These four groups were under the direction of our professors: Vondrášková- green group, Hamříková- salmon pink group, Přibáňová- yellow group and blue group under the direction of our instructor Peter. All games for principle mutual agreement and cooperation in team building. In the evening arrived to have a look at us professor Lepeška, which he stayed with us til the morning, it was pitch dark and we had two games. In one of these games, everybody had a burning candle, it was very nice. We had to be quiet and perceive the atmosphere of the sleeping forest around us. I think we adapted to the atmosphere very well. Soon afterwards we went to bed.

In the morning on the second we got up early and we had breakfast. After, we continued in playing games to win the treasure. The sun was shining, but it was cold out. We enjoyed the fun. Before our departure, was the announcement of the winner of the treasure of the Amazon. Green group won. But salmon pink group had only one point less than green group. I was in green group, so I would like to thank the teachers for the nice prizes.

I think that these two days were great and we liked it. I have many amazing experiences and I got to know my friends and professors better.

I would like to thank everybody, who planned on this trip. I would like to thank professor Přibáňová the most.

Julie Dobešová

What is your favorite subject in school?

English - 36%
Social Science – 20.5%
History – 15%
Foreign Language – 11%
PE – 5%
Chemistry – 5%
Art – 2.5%
Czech Language – 2.5%
Geography – 2.5%

Sabina Boublerlova

The Presidential Election in the USA

On the 4th of November Barack Obama was officially elected as the President of the USA. His rival was John McCain. The elections were fifty-fifty up to the last second but in the end Barack Obama won. According to CNN Barack Obama's campaign was the most expensive in U.S. history. Barack Obama will be inaugurated on January 20, 2009. George Bush will teach Barack Obama all the presidential duties until then.

David Trachta

Lead Editor: Julie Dobešová
Current Events: David Trachta
Important Dates: Zora Secova
Interviewer: Sabina Boublerlova