



BRAIN

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WAVE

Hello dear friends!

To Vote or not to Vote

From time to time every person faces with a choice in his life. We choose friends, profession, and path of life. It is very difficult to make a choice but it is far more difficult when we have to choose the future of our country.

Elections are one of the main events in the life of the state. In Russia, a citizen over the age of 18 has the right to vote. Voting means you have a say on who represents you in government. It is the right, privilege and duty to vote as a citizen of your country and a member of your community.

However, not everyone participates local and national elections, even though all citizens should exercise their right to vote and be heard. People choose not



to vote for many different reasons. Some think their vote will not count, some are too busy, and some do not like the candidates. People might think their vote does not matter, but votes can shape foreign, economic and social policies. Thus, we may leave the best administration for future generations.

It is a pity there is an incredibly low political activity in our country. Although many people complain about the way our country is going, they do not do anything to change it. Over 52 percent of the eligible electorate did not show up at the polls in 2016 on the elections to the state Duma. Because of the low voter turnout, the interests and concerns of the majority of citizens are not taken into account in the Parliament.

I think the right to vote is so important civic responsibility that it should be made compulsory. I think so because indifferent citizens allow incompetent people to run the country, open the way for corruption and authoritarianism.

I am sure that everybody should come to the President election in 2018 and choose better future for our country.

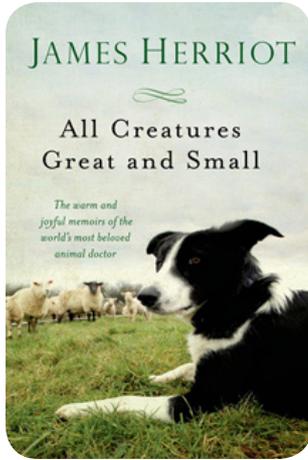
I do believe that it is necessary to go to the elections, to participate in the life of our country, our people, to preserve our culture and values.

Safullin Roman, 11 B



“All Creatures Great And Small”

– the first book by a remarkable writer James Herriot, a veterinarian and pilot. It was first published in Russia in 1972. This collection includes books “If Only They Could Talk” and “It Shouldn't Happen to a Vet”, which were published earlier.



The plot of whole book takes part in a small imaginary town Darrowby but its real prototype Trisk really exists and receives great popularity due to Herriot. Darrowby is located in Yorkshire Hills and has many spectacular scenes. During all his life Herriot told that Yorkshire Hills was the place of his dream. There he married and brought up his son and daughter-James and Rosemary. James, like his father, became a vet and Rosemary became a doctor too. Each story in the book is a separate, independent work telling us about Herriot's adventures. They are all linked by a general story about James's becoming a professional veterinarian. Surprisingly, Herriot was able to romanticize such unsightly things, like lying in the mud in the pouring rain, trying to help the sheep with lambing. All the stories are written with humor, without any embellishment of reality, which is sometimes very cruel.

Alexander Mal'kov, 9 B

«Diaghilev Seasons»

The multi-genre Diaghilev festival is a significant large-scale cultural project. It can rightly be called international despite the fact that it is held in Russia, Perm. The purpose of the festival is to maintain and develop Russian cultural traditions. The city where the event takes place is the motherland of Sergei Diaghilev, who was the organizer of the "Russian Seasons" in the early 20th century. After Diaghilev's death, the tour performances of the Russian ballet and Opera ended. A hundred years later, in 2006, they were revived and renamed into "Diaghilev Seasons" by Teodor Currentzis. Being an outstanding Greek and Russian conductor and musician, he is also the artistic director of the festival. The program of the festival includes world premieres of opera and ballet performances, art exhibitions, concerts of symphonic, chamber, organ and jazz music, a retrospective of feature films and photo exhibitions. All these make the Diaghilev festival a unique cultural phenomenon in the cultural life of Russia.



11 B, Oksana Shurinova

Leningrad Bridges



“Leningrad Bridges” is a musical festival that takes place in Saint Petersburg. This cultural event was held in 2016 for the first time.

The festival is called “Leningrad Bridges” because some of the pedestrian bridges such as Banking, Italian and Little-Stabled, play the role of the stage for the musicians.

During August, 19-21 anyone can enjoy the talent of many young performers not only from Saint Petersburg but also from other regions of our country. Twice as nice that these concerts are free. “Leningrad Bridges” is rapidly developing and gaining popularity festival. Organizers of the festival hope it will soon become international.

11 B, Anastasiya Ivanova

Raccoon Festival

On January 27-28 in the Loft Project Floors, a raccoon festival was held. I really like funny raccoons that is why I decided to visit the festival. There were a lot of enclosures with raccoons in a large hall. The owners of the animals were next to them. My visit to the festival was very educational as I learnt a lot about raccoons. I was also allowed to stroke these fluffy animals. Raccoons are so clever and cunning that they can be trained and bred. But I wouldn't recommend to keep raccoons as pets at home because it requires a lot of trouble and effort. What is more, raccoons are actually wild animals so they can scratch and bite you from time to time. At the festival, I got a lot of positive emotions. If I were you, I would definitely go and see funny raccoons.



8 A, Shumilovskaya Margarita

IT'S OUR DAY!



Internationally, purple is a colour for symbolising women. Historically the combination of purple, green and white to symbolise women's equality originated from the Women's Social and Political Union in the UK in 1908. Purple signifies justice and dignity. Green symbolises hope. White represents purity, but is no longer used due to 'purity' being a controversial concept. The introduction of the colour yellow representing a 'new dawn' is commonly used to signify a second wave of feminism. Thus purple with green represents traditional feminism, purple with yellow represents progressive contemporary feminism.

A global web of rich and diverse local activity connects women from all around the world ranging from political rallies, business conferences, government activities and networking events through to local women's craft markets, theatric performances, fashion parades and more.

So make a difference, think globally and act locally!

Make everyday International Women's Day.

Do your bit to ensure that the future for girls is bright, equal, safe and rewarding.

«The Road of Life»

On 25 January, my schoolmates and I went on a bus tour dedicated to the breakthrough of the Siege of Leningrad, which was broken on a narrow strip of the front in January 1943. We visited several memorable places, laid flowers at the memorials and monuments to the victims of the horrific blockade.

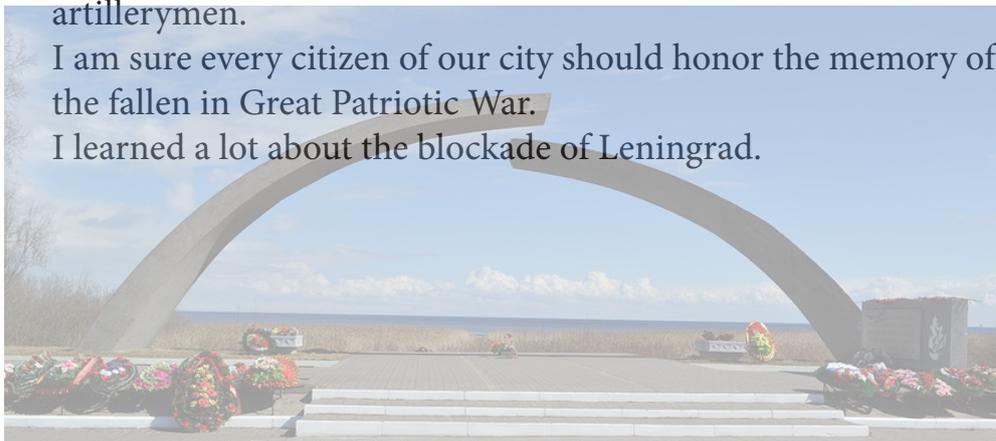
«The Road of Life» museum on Lake Ladoga was the final destination of our trip.

The guide told us some appalling stories about courage and fortitude of defenders of the city.

During the Second World War Leningrad lived through the most tragic episode in its existence, the 900-day siege lasting from September 1941 to January 1944. Leningrad was cut off from the rest of the country and the most horrific siege in the history of mankind began. Weakened by hunger, people struggled to defend their native land and fought for survival in the vast city. In winter, Leningrad was supplied with food and munitions by the Road of Life. This was the name given to the route, 100 kilometers long, which linked the city with the Osinovets Cape on Lake Ladoga and, when the lake was frozen, with its eastern shore. The uninterrupted activity of this legendary route was maintained at the cost of the lives of numerous drivers, sappers, railway men, soldiers, pilots, anti-aircraft gunners, and artillerymen.

I am sure every citizen of our city should honor the memory of the fallen in Great Patriotic War.

I learned a lot about the blockade of Leningrad.



Speak English



Tongue-Twisters

help to improve fluency of your speech. Here are some of them. Practise at least once a day and you will see the effect.

Good Luck!

Betty Botter had some butter,
“But,” she said, “this butter’s
bitter.

If I bake this bitter butter,
it would make my batter
bitter.

But a bit of better butter-
that would make my batter



Silly Sally shooed seven silly
sheep.

The seven silly sheep Silly
Sally shooed
shilly-shallied south.

These sheep shouldn’t sleep in
a shack;
sheep should sleep in a shed.





*The world is so full
of a number of things,
I'm sure we should all be
as happy as kings.*
R.L. Stevenson



Daughter of Baikal

I'm going to tell you one legend.

This legend is about a daughter of Baikal, her name is Angara and she is located in Irkutsk region. She is very beautiful. Her father – Baikal loved her very much. One day she heard about handsome Yenisei and decided she had to elope with him. Actually her father had already found fiancé for her. It was a rich and brave Irkut. Angara worried very much about it. Streamlets and rivulets decided to help her. They began to undermine the cliffs. One day the pass was finished and Angara escaped. Her father was very angry and he hit the mountain. A big cliff fell of the mountain and he threw it after Angara. But it was too late, she was very far away. Thousand years Angara flows into Yenisei and her father became lonely and gloomy. The rock that Baikal threw after her daughter called Shaman stone.

Valeria Morozova, 6 B

Kikimora

This story is about a legendary creature. It is kikimora. It is an evil spirit, that sends nightmares to a person. It lives in a swamp. It doesn't wear shoes or clothes. Usually, it doesn't bring much harm to a person, only play jokes on him, but if it doesn't like the person, then it will begin to break furniture or dishes.



Nikita Tereshkevich, 6 B

An Eagle's Nest May Weigh Almost a Ton

Most birds build a new nest for their eggs each year, and some birds even construct two or three new homes in one season. But the bald eagle uses the same nest year after year.

This mighty creature chooses only one mate for its whole lifetime, and builds a single nest (which is called aerie) high up in a tall tree. Each year the eagle keeps this massive nest in repair by adding more material, so that, after a few years, the aerie may weigh as much as two thousand pounds!



Helpful Tip

If you use the same pencil to take a test that you used for studying for the test, the pencil will remember the answers. That's what experienced American students say.

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