Buzz English Magazine



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Editorial staff:
Georgeta Oprea (School Inspector, ISJ Buzău);
Rodica Medianu;
Ramona Bănulescu;
Cristian Marius Dima;
Cristina Toma;
Emilia Frînculeasă;
Camelia Luminița Anghel.

Teacher contributors:
Adriana Radu
Andreea Neagu
Angelica Stîngă
Aurora Irimia
Camelia Timofte
Carmen Sin
Cristiana Claudia Grozavu
Elena Radu
Elena Florea
Liliana Caloian
Mihaela Lazăr
Mihaela Neacșu
Mirela Daniela Paraipan
Nicoleta Nechita
Raluca Filipache
Roxana Chiagă
Valentin Baciu

The responsibility for the content of the published materials rests exclusively with the authors / the guiding teachers.

Cover 1: *Collage poster by students:* Alexandra Negoiță, Andres Brănișteanu, Cătălina Oleacu și Beatrice Rusu, teacher: Raluca Filipache, Liceul de Arte „Margareta Sterian", Buzău

Salutând apariția unei noi publicații școlare în peisajul educațional buzoian: Buzz English Magazine, Inspectoratul Școlar Județean Buzău își exprimă aprecierea față de eforturile colegilor noștri, profesorii de Limba engleză, care au contribuit, alături de elevii lor talentați, la realizarea unui necesar instrument didactic, promotor de competențe și valori: cooperare, multilingvism, creativitate, responsabilitate și – mai ales – recunoștință!

Prof. Ionel Meiroșu – Inspector Școlar General
Prof. Dr. Daniela Palcău – Inspector Școlar General Adjunct

Foreword

"Cultivate the habit of being grateful for every good thing that comes to you, and to give thanks continuously. And because all things have contributed to your advancement, you should include all things in your gratitude" - Ralph Waldo Emerson.

Celebrating Thanksgiving Day has become a tradition among teachers and students in Buzau County for some years now. They cultivate gratitude, expressing thankfulness to people in their lives, writing letters or just simple messages, writing poems or reading old stories about people being grateful for all help, support and finally love they have received.

Teachers encourage students to take time to express their gratitude thoughts to their parents, inspiring artwork designed to enhance the thanksgiving experience - encouraging parents to show gratitude to their children as well.

"*We must find time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives*"- once said John F. Kennedy - this is our lessons aim.

Buzz English Magazine shows just a little part of a great activity, that of teaching gratitude. Studies show that gratitude not only can be deliberately cultivated, but can increase levels of well-being and happiness among those who do cultivate it.

In addition, grateful thinking - and especially expression of it to others - is associated with increased levels of energy, optimism and empathy.

Gratitude shouldn't be a secret, teachers should help children to share a word of thank you with each other and with those who serve and help them every day.

This is the lesson our students are advised to learn through these wonderful activities!

Georgeta Oprea, School Inspector
Buzau County School Inspectorate

I - Teaching Thankfulness- Theoretical Perspectives

Thanksgiving Day

Aurora Irimia, Şcoala Gimnazială „*Vasile Cristoforeanu*”, Râmnicu Sărat

I start my lessons making power point presentations which trace back in time the origins of this holiday celebrated on the 4th Thursday of November every year. The students read and answer my questions on the topic. They like such kind of activities that give them the freedom to speak. I always encourage them to speak, to get them talking. They are “forced” to answer my every year question: “What are you thankful for?” Or I find interesting, nice quotations which I like and I hope to be a starting point for their essays.

“*Gratitude unlocks the fullness of life. It turns what we have into enough, and more. It turns denial into acceptance, chaos to order, confusion to clarity. It can turn a meal into a feast, a house into a home, a stranger into a friend. Gratitude makes sense of our past, brings peace for today and creates a vision for tomorrow*.” (Melody Beattie) Writing essays makes students more confident in their ability to use the language and develops their writing skills. Crosswords are also very funny and challenging. I often use them, too.





Student: Dalia Alessia Costea
Teacher: Aurora Irimia, Şcoala Gimnazială „*Vasile Cristoforeanu*”, Râmnicu Sărat

On Being Thankful…

Andreea Neagu, Colegiul Național *„Alexandru Vlahuță”*, Râmnicu Sărat

It is undeniable that teaching, as a profession, is rewarding in itself, as it offers teachers multiple reasons for mere happiness or… simply lessons taught by students. Moreover, we should all agree that teaching English is a blessing… whereas teaching English in 2020 is becoming more and more challenging…

Never have I thought that feelings can reach beyond the screen of a laptop or any other device. Yet, the practice of online schooling has proved me wrong, not only once…The activities performed to celebrate Thanksgiving Day this year have left a strong impact both on myself, as a teacher, and on the students taking part. Giving thanks for what they consider important in life stirred interest and excitement in expressing feelings probably more willingly than in face-to-face communication - the wall helped this time, as the students felt free to show their inner voices that echoed and could be heard from behind the screen.

Ranging from simple drawings or projects to more elaborate or metaphorical pieces of writing, the ten graders of "Alexandru Vlahuță" College in Râmnicu Sărat certify that school must go on despite the pandemic, and learning English, regardless of the environment, might be as enjoyable as always.



Student: Bianca Vasiloiu
Teacher: Mihaela Neacșu, Liceul Teoretic „Radu Vlădescu”, Pătârlagele

Thankful, thankful!

Cristiana Claudia Grozavu, Școala Gimnazială „*Căpitan Aviator Mircea T. Bădulescu”*, Buzău

On the fourth Thursday of November, people in the United States celebrate Thanksgiving, which honors the early settlers and Native Americans who came together to have a harvest feast. It is a wonderful opportunity to teach our students gratitude while improving their English. Easy and fun lessons can be designed to explain and explore the North American holiday, to teach culture, history and vocabulary to our ESL class.

Providing students with simple and accurate information about the first Thanksgiving is an important step in understanding the meaning of the holiday. Thankfully, there are excellent online resources that can help us present the Thanksgiving story. After watching one of the deluge of videos on YouTube, students should remember a few facts about the holiday.

In September 1620, a small ship called the Mayflower left Plymouth, England, carrying 102 passengers – Puritans (who wanted to break away from the Church of England) and other individuals lured by the promise of prosperity and land ownership in the New World. After an extremely uncomfortable crossing that lasted 66 days, they were supposed to drop anchor where New York City is now located. But windy conditions forced the group to land and settle at what is now Cape Cod, Massachusetts.

The Pilgrims, as they are now commonly known, prepared for winter, but only half of them survived the hardships of that brutal season. One day, a Native American called Squanto visited the settlers. Squanto was a Wampanoag who had experience with other settlers and could speak English. Squanto taught the Pilgrim how to grow corn, extract sap from maple trees, catch fish in the rivers and avoid poisonous plants.

In November 1621, after the Pilgrims' first corn harvest, the English and native men, women, and children ate together. The meal consisted of deer, corn, shellfish, and roasted meat. They offered prayers and thanks to God for their first harvest, grateful to have overcome all the hardships with the help of the Native Americans.

With intermediate ESL learners, a cloze worksheet (one of my favourites is https://bogglesworldesl.com/files10/FirstThanksgivingCloze.pdf) could be a suitable follow-up activity to reinforce the previously presented information.

Thanksgiving traditions are also significant aspects to explore in this holiday lesson. In many American households, the Thanksgiving celebration has lost much of its original religious significance; instead, it now centers on cooking and enjoying a bountiful meal with family and friends. The turkey has become all but synonymous with the holiday; nearly 90 percent of Americans eat the bird—whether roasted, baked or deep-fried. Other traditional foods include stuffing, mashed potatoes, cranberry sauce and pumpkin pie. One easy and enjoyable way to introduce this information is another cloze worksheet (https://bogglesworldesl.com/files10/ThanksgivingCloze.pdf).

ESL beginners find word search worksheets more fun to help them delve further into traditions. Students should be encouraged to explore the vocabulary as much as possible, using images of Thanksgiving feasts to help them to participate orally as well as in their worksheets.

Advanced ESL Student will definitely enjoy watching the funny Farmer vs. turkey video at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=x6x66sKK-rQ&ab_channel=bluemountainecards. After having seen the video, they will explain what they think Thanksgiving is about – based on the clip and their own experiences. Pop culture references could also be used to introduce the Thanksgiving meal, like scenes from "Friends" (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XSol1q4zklg&ab_channel=TBS).

But more than anything else, Thanksgiving is one major occasion on which we can teach our students to be grateful and to appreciate the good things they have in their lives. Research has shown that people who are grateful, who purposefully take time to be thankful for what they have, are happier. So here are some Thanksgiving Gratitude

Activities which we can enjoy with our students on the fourth Thursday of November:

• create a Gratitude Pumpkin. Every night in November, they can write in English a few things they are thankful for on a pumpkin until the whole pumpkin is filled and can be presented in class on Thanksgiving Day. (https://coffeeandcarpool.com/most-meaningful-thanksgiving-gratitude-activities/)

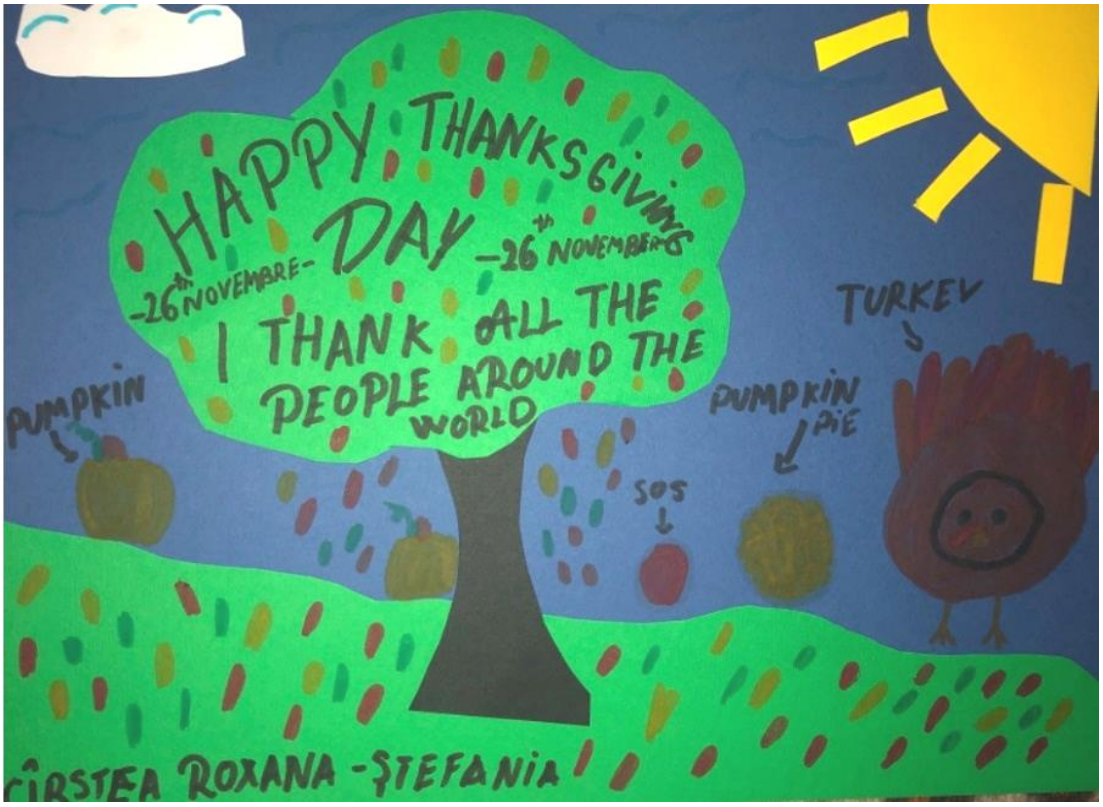
• make a Paper Pumpkin from Faithful Little Hands and have our students write what they're thankful for on each little strip of paper. (https://coffeeandcarpool.com/most-meaningful-thanksgiving-gratitude-activities/)

• help students tell each person they're grateful for and why they're grateful for them with some printable Gratitude Kindness Notes.

And last, but certainly not least, we can recommend reading books about being grateful and have students share their conclusions in class. These are easy ways to teach them gratitude and instill memories of kindness that they can draw on as they grow to be happy, responsible and reliable adults.

References:

https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/explore/history/first-thanksgiving/
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https://coffeeandcarpool.com/most-meaningful-thanksgiving-gratitude-activities/



Student: Roxana Cîrstea

Teacher: Cristiana Claudia Grozavu, Școala Gimnazială *„Căpitan Aviator Mircea T. Bădulescu"*, Buzău

How to inspire and cultivate attitudes of gratitude

Claudia Emilia Frînculeasă, Liceul Teoretic „*Radu Vlădescu"* Pătârlagele

Gratefulness, that warm, deep appreciation felt when kindness or certain benefits are received, can actually be taught in school, and giving thanks should not necessarily be associated only with the annual celebration of Thanksgiving Day. Teaching gratitude is much more than the simple action of saying the words "Thank you!".

Considered by many a religious virtue, a moral value as well as a social emotion, gratitude is defined by positive psychology as a powerful source of well-being, increased physical health and successful human relationships, serving a greater purpose which includes long lasting positivity.

Needless to say, one of the most effective ways of teaching gratitude is by example. Whenever the teacher shows thankfulness, appreciation, kindness, compassion, tolerance, generosity, hope, empathy, respect, forgiveness, understanding etc., the learners will definitely notice, copy the teacher's positive behaviour and even emulate their (role) model.

Do teachers express enough words of thankfulness and appreciation in class to inspire the students to follow their example? Are they fully aware of the benefits of positive feedback? Research shows that a teacher's praise – either verbal or non-verbal (thumbs-up, applause, smiling) or both - increases positive attitudes and behaviours in students, not to mention the improved academic performance. Here are some examples of words of appreciation that teachers can use with guaranteed efficiency on student motivation, positive thinking and self-confidence: *You were great!, Well done!, I appreciate your efforts., Your homework was excellent., You are a blessing/ an inspiration., If anyone deserves congratulations, it's you., Thank you for your time!, Thank you for your attention!, Thank you for sharing your experience/ wisdom with us today!, Thank you for the initiative!, Thank you for setting such a good example!, You make/made me feel so proud., You have made my day., Keep up the good work!.*

As teachers, we should always remember that only through positive feedback can we really acknowledge our students' efforts, encouraging and motivating them to do better, to make progress, even when they have failed a task, even when some of their answers are incorrect. It is both our professional obligation and moral duty to keep all our students engaged and activated, inspired to believe in themselves and fulfil their potential, especially those who need our appreciation, approval and/or validation the most.

Other opportunities available for teaching moral values like thankfulness involve exploring and exploiting the incredible diversity of online resources (films, quotations, proverbs) and promoting educational content from history, literature, and other good practice examples (humanitarian projects, charity events, local hospitality). Moreover, gratitude can be cultivated by providing guidance and real opportunities for the students to reflect on their lives' blessings and give thanks. This year, to encourage my students to express their gratitude and avoid simplistic, repetitive answers, I created the following templates for them to personalize and then share Thanksgiving poems, 10-12 lines long:

We are so thankful for ... /And for …/ And for… / Our gratitude is eternal, like … and … / And we are always …

It's Thanksgiving Day, what a beautiful time/ To celebrate the good in our life!/ A … day to share our …/ And pray together/ For … and …

I am still young, but I want the world to know/ I'm … so, thank you, dear Lord, with all my heart/ For … and …/ And most of all for …

Thanksgiving Day is the right moment in time/ To stop and count our blessings: /... , ... and …/ Let's stop and say how… we are/ For… and …

Today I feel so…!/ There's so much thankfulness in my soul./ First of all, for…/ Second of all, for …/ Last but not least, for …

Without … I couldn't …/ Without ... I couldn't …/Without... I couldn't .../ That's why today I need to show/ … , … and …

My life is good! I am a ... soul,/ I have... and I can …/ We are together and we …/ Our lives are happy when we … / And even happier when we …

There is so much thankfulness in my heart!/ I've got so many reasons to smile!/ I've got no ..., no …/ Nothing to make me hopeless or make my eyes cry,/ I am truly blessed with … .

Gratitude is like a … or a …/ It is like a … for our hearts/ We should appreciate who we are and what we have/ Show gratitude for… and for …

Happy Thanksgiving to you and your dear ones!/ Another year has passed with … and … / May the new one bring you … and …/ May you be … and ……/ May you stay grateful and cherish your …

If you ever ask yourself, what your level of proficiency would be if gratitude were a language, you should know that being thankful is something that comes naturally. Even if you decide to start speaking the language of gratitude today. After all, by being grateful, we learn to count our blessings. We pay it forward. We find the silver lining. We unlock the fullness of life. We turn what we have into enough. We improve our perspective, our perception of things, people and events. We do not take anything for granted. We fill the half-empty glass. We make amends. We plant the seed of hope and positive thinking. We accept that we owe others a debt of gratitude. We grow. We heal. We value. We share. We cherish. We become the best versions of ourselves.



Student:
Rareș Andrei Marin
Teacher:
Roxana Chiagă,
Școala Gimnazială
Gherăseni

Translation, the bridge between the organizational culture of the school and European learning opportunities

Rev. F. Cristian Marius Dima, Seminarul Teologic Liceal Ortodox „*Chesarie Episcopul”* Buzău

Consistent with our educational creed and managerial strategies, meant to strengthen the European dimension of the offered education, the "Chesarie Episcopul" Orthodox Theological Seminary of Buzău has permanently organized school and extracurricular projects and events, for more than a decade, oriented towards dignity, multilingualism, volunteering and other conjunctive European and Christian values.

Several facilities and contexts have been created, in this regard, in order to engage students interested in translation or traductology activities, from the Translation Workshops, organized by the Department of Modern and Classical Languages annually, to papers and scientific articles, in which they have been involved by the coordinating teacher, through coherent translation exercises, especially in the orthodox theological language, for qualitative and quantitative data analyses.

It is a natural continuation of the preoccupations for translating and broadening the cultural and religious horizons, started by the enlightened hierarchs of the Archdiocese of Buzău, since the end of the 17th century (the scholar Bishop Mitrofan and those who followed him), developed by the first principal of the Buzău Seminary exemplarily – teacher and translator Gavriil Munteanu, whom we commemorated, in a dedicated event, last year – and continued, in gratitude for the path opened by the forerunners, with innovative projects and top competitions in the well-known theological school in Buzau, within the framework of the new cross-border educational landscape.



That is why again, this year, with multiple limitations at the level of education, our students have been invited to a new European school partnership project – in which they will develop, among other things, their language skills, they have translated scientific papers, approached for the first time in Romanian, created a unique brochure on the occasion of the European Day of Languages, and, on November 26, on the Thanksgiving Day, they made commendable efforts to participate in the "Juvenes Translatores" Contest, the most titled competition for secondary schools, organized by the European Commission.

Aimed at "recognizing the merits of the best young translators in the European Union", the contest addresses students who turn 17 in the year of the competition, and can enroll a maximum of 5 pupils from each high school selected by the organizers, to translate a text, using classical dictionaries, from an official language of the European Union into another official language, chosen by the competitor.

Despite the harsh conditions for joining this competition, especially those specific to this month – hopefully transient – in Romanian education: the small number of students eligible for age, from which we can select those capable of performance, moving school and extracurricular activities online, being taken measures to lock

schools, the lack of electricity in some villages of Buzău and Vrancea, this week, doubled by students' harassment, due to unstable Internet connection (where it exists), four students managed to arrive for the synchronous competition online, at the Seminary, on time. Even though there was no heat in the radiators, the four audacious, equipped as if they were going skiing, and properly physically distanced, warmed by the excitement of the competition and the steaming geranium tea, were translating for two hours, a text in English, about a paleographic report from... May 8, 2095.

Completely following the regulations of the competition, updated by the Directorate-General for Translation of the European Commission in due time, they competed in creativity, giving optimal expression to their mother tongue, in which they translated the required text, hoping to repeat the performance of 2009 when, participating with the students at "Juvenes Translatores" for the first time, seminarian Teodor Baciu won the trophy for Romania, within a solemn event, in which he participated in Brussels, together with the coordinating teacher.

For us, those who teach and study at "the oldest middle school in Buzău" – but always renewed by the sacrificial work of teachers and students alike – this is another reason for joy, seeing that, regardless of the time, the school "which has made all of us men" preserves and amplifies the prestige built by the forerunners, in an endless – school and extracurricular – exercise of identity, as a binder, and of gratitude, as a virtue.

Later edit: Mihail Banu, one of the participating seminarians, was singled out by the contest markers for showing remarkable translating skills. He was sent a special mention certificate and a touching message, commending him for the quality of his translation.


European Commission

Juvenes Translatores 2020

Translation contest for secondary schools in the European Union

★ Special mention ★

Mihail Banu

Seminarul Teologic Ortodox „Chesarie Episcopul" Buzău

Director-General
Directorate-General for Translation
Rytis Martikonis

Project leader
Elisabetta Degiampietro

Translation

II. Best Practices of Thanksgiving Day 2020: exploring, adapting and creating online resources; digital tools for teaching gratitude; volunteering and charity work

Using Jamboard and Voki to express gratitude

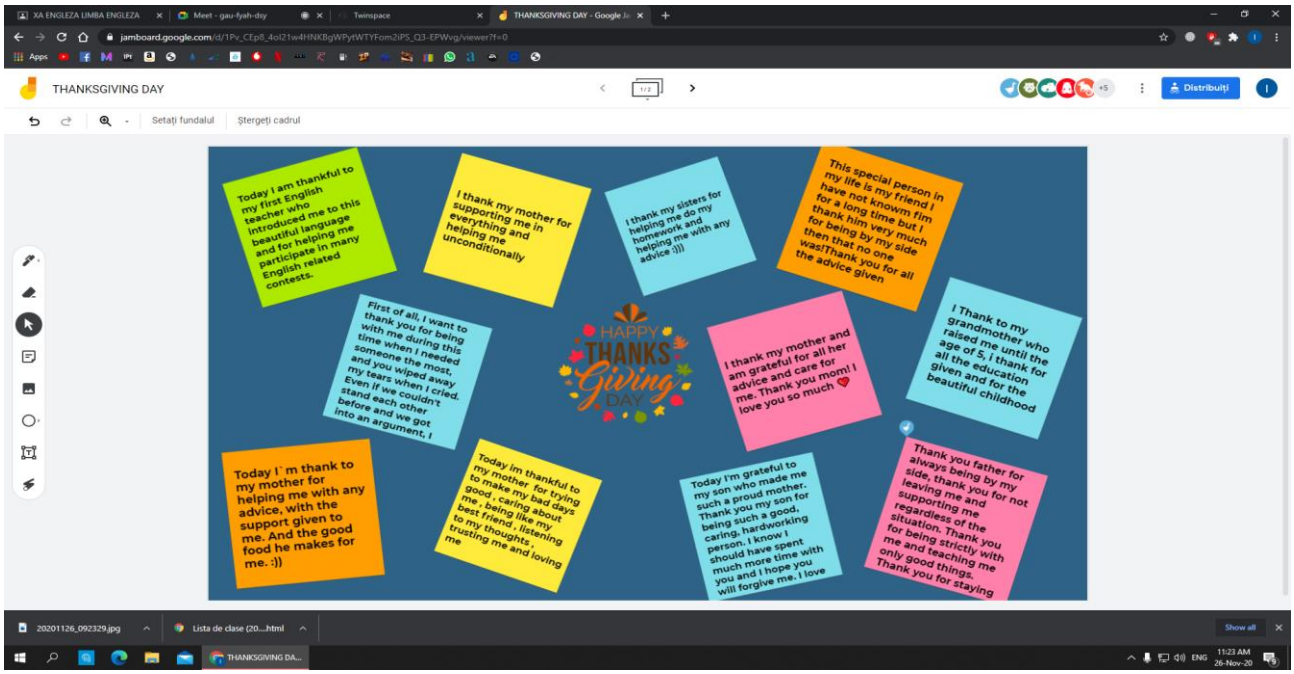
Cristina Toma, Liceul Tehnologic *„Grigore C. Moisil"* Buzău

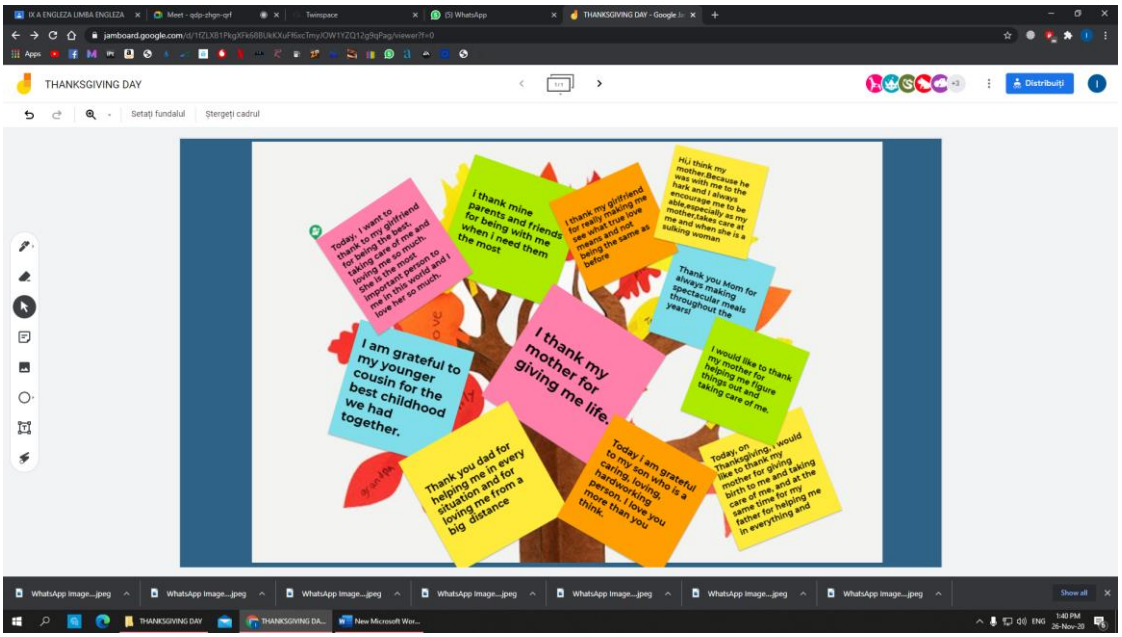
On Thanksgiving Day, this year, more than ever, I encouraged my students to think about their loved ones, the ones they are close to their soul and to write them a few words which should express their gratitude for the simple fact they are beside them.

In order to make them open their heart and be honest, I used two online applications (JAMBOARD and VOKI) which offered my students the opportunity to hide behind some anonymous characters and write their sincere thoughts to the ones they love without being ashamed or intimidated by my presence or their colleagues' presence.

Moreover, I encouraged them to send those messages to the addresee and I had the wonderful surprise to receive private messages on Whatsapp from some of my students with sceenshots representing their loved ones'answers to their messages. My students were extremely excited and drew the conclusion that a simple THANK YOU is more important than any other material reward.

Grades: 9A and 10A – materials made in JAMBOARD



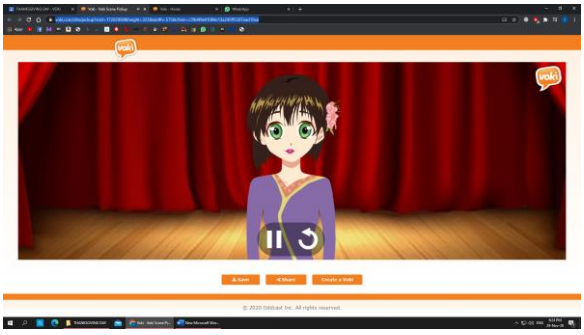


Grade: 9A – materials made with VOKI

Student: Rebeca Chircu

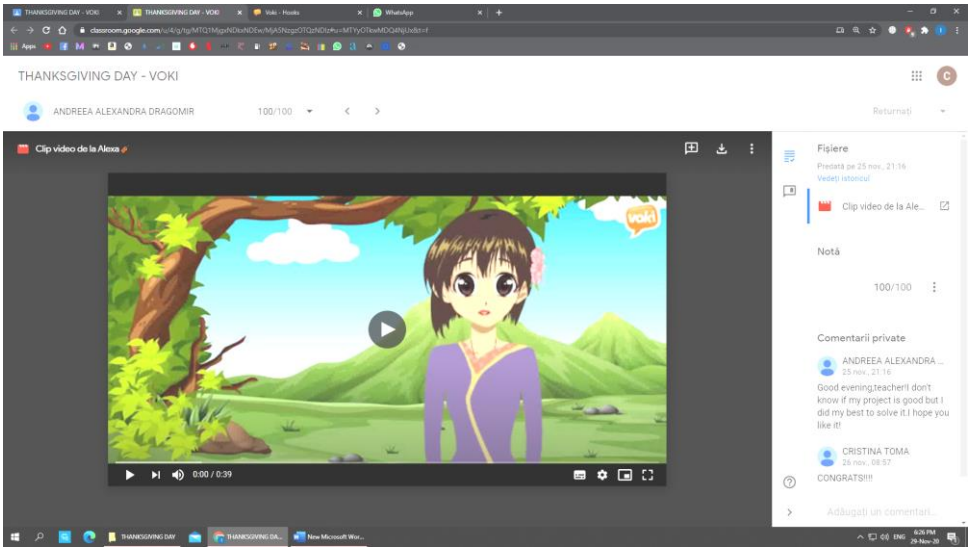


https://www.voki.com/vp-editor/preview_export/impress.php?VpID=361586#/step-2



https://www.voki.com/site/pickup?scid=17203958&height=323&width=575&chsm=c39d49e41084c13a245ff5587ead10ae

Student: Alexandra Dragomir



https://classroom.google.com/u/4/g/tg/MTQ1MjgxNDkxNDEw/MjA5NzgzOTQzNDIz#u=MTYyOTkwMDQ4NjUx&t=f

Digital Art



Student: Roxana Radu
Teacher: Andreea Neagu, Colegiul Național „*Alexandru Vlahuță*”, Râmnicu Sărat

The Gratitude Jar

Elena Radu, Școala Gimnazială „Înv. *Clemența Beșchea”*, Căpățînești (Mărăcineni)



Teaching Scenario – Thanksgiving Day

Camelia Timofte, Școala Gimnazială *„George Emil Palade”*, Buzău

5th Grade – L1

General competence:

4. Writing messages in everyday communication situations

Preparatory stage of the activity

1.3 Specific competence: Develop interest in specific aspects of the culture of the language studied

Students are sent some links to watch and read information about the holiday:

https://www.britannica.com/topic/Thanksgiving-Day/images-videos – video: On This Day: Thanksgiving

Teaching Scenario stages:

1. Lead in

Specific competence:

3.2. Select information from a short text accompanied by illustrations

Watching a short video about Thanksgiving Day to find out more historical information about celebrating the holiday in the USA and Canada.

Students have to answer the following questions:

a. Who proclaimed a national day of Thanksgiving and when did it happen?

b. What happened in 1942?

c. How do American and Canadian people celebrate this national holiday?

https://www.britannica.com/topic/Thanksgiving-Day/images-videos - video: Discover the origins and tradition of Thanksgiving in the United States and Canada

2. Presentation / pre-writing

Specific competence:

1.2. Identify the overall meaning of clearly articulated everyday messages and dialogues

Activity 1 – students learn new words/structures/collocations –ex. feast with family, proclaim, pilgrim, harvest, newcomers, settlers, and use them in their own examples.

Watching a video about the story of the first pilgrims

https://www.britannica.com/topic/Thanksgiving-Day/images-videos – video: On This Day: Thanksgiving

3. Practice – pre-writing

Specific competence:

2.4 Show willingness to participate in a dialogue

Activity 2 - Role play – students act short role plays on thanksgiving topic

4. Production – while-writing

Specific competence:

4.2 Describe aspects of daily life, using short sentences

Activity 3 – Students write a thank letter to a person who they would like to thank for a specific event/gesture/help etc.

5. Post-writing

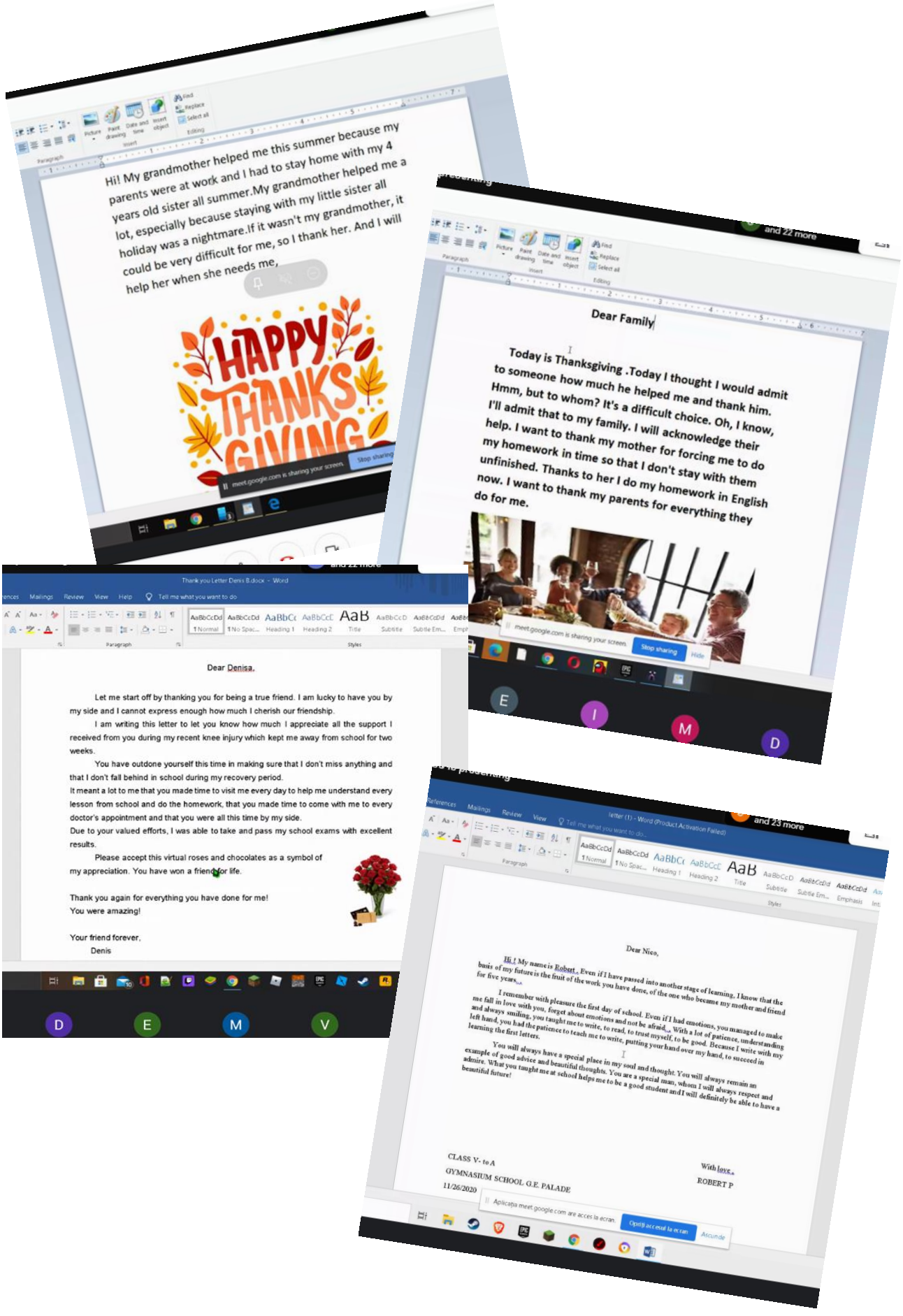
Specific competence:

1.1 Identify the overall meaning of clearly articulated everyday messages

Activity 5 - some of the letters are read during our online session/classes

All letters are included in ThanksgivingDay2020 ebook.

https://issuu.com/andreaman75/docs/thanksgiving_day


Hi! My grandmother helped me this summer because my parents were at work and I had to stay home with my 4 years old sister all summer.My grandmother helped me a lot, especially because staying with my little sister all holiday was a nightmare.If it wasn't my grandmother, it could be very difficult for me, so I thank her. And I will help her when she needs me,
HAPPY THANKS GIVING
meet.google.com is sharing your screen.
Stop sharing
Dear Family
Today is Thanksgiving .Today I thought I would admit to someone how much he helped me and thank him. Hmm, but to whom? It's a difficult choice. Oh, I know, I'll admit that to my family. I will acknowledge their help. I want to thank my mother for forcing me to do my homework in time so that I don't stay with them unfinished. Thanks to her I do my homework in English now. I want to thank my parents for everything they do for me.
meet.google.com is sharing your screen.
Stop sharing
Hide
Thank you Letter Denis B.docx - Word
Dear Denisa,
Let me start off by thanking you for being a true friend. I am lucky to have you by my side and I cannot express enough how much I cherish our friendship.
I am writing this letter to let you know how much I appreciate all the support I received from you during my recent knee injury which kept me away from school for two weeks.
You have outdone yourself this time in making sure that I don't miss anything and that I don't fall behind in school during my recovery period.
It meant a lot to me that you made time to visit me every day to help me understand every lesson from school and do the homework, that you made time to come with me to every doctor's appointment and that you were all this time by my side.
Due to your valued efforts, I was able to take and pass my school exams with excellent results.
Please accept this virtual roses and chocolates as a symbol of my appreciation. You have won a friend for life.
Thank you again for everything you have done for me!
You were amazing!
Your friend forever,
Denis
Dear Nico,
Hi ! My name is Robert . Even if I have passed into another stage of learning, I know that the basis of my future is the fruit of the work you have done, of the one who became my mother and friend for five years...
I remember with pleasure the first day of school. Even if I had emotions, you managed to make me fall in love with you, forget about emotions and not be afraid... With a lot of patience, understanding and always smiling, you taught me to write, to read, to trust myself, to be good. Because I write with my left hand, you had the patience to teach me to write, putting your hand over my hand, to succeed in learning the first letters.
You will always have a special place in my soul and thought. You will always remain an example of good advice and beautiful thoughts. You are a special man, whom I will always respect and admire. What you taught me at school helps me to be a good student and I will definitely be able to have a beautiful future!
CLASS V- to A
GYMNASIUM SCHOOL G.E. PALADE
11/26/2020
With love ,
ROBERT P
Aplicația meet.google.com are acces la ecran
Opriți accesul la ecran
Ascunde

Thanksgiving Day! Be thankful!

Nicoleta Nechita, Liceul de Arte „*Margareta Sterian”*, Buzău

In order to make students aware of other cultures along with their national identity, they were presented the original story of the fall harvest celebration that brought together Native Americans and Pilgrims for a feast, followed by a practical activity in which they were asked to focus on things they are thankful for and write in the word cloud. Here are their answers…



T- Day 2020- Online, yet Heartfelt

Elena Florea, Colegiul Național *„Alexandru Vlahuță”*, Râmnicu Sărat

There are good things happening to us all year round, yet we seldom take time to reflect on them and, most importantly, to express gratitude. As a matter of fact, at some stages of my life, giving thanks felt uneasy and almost unnecessary, and I don't think I am alone in this.

Luckily, those days are behind me now, and I am glad to say that I have come to understand that expressing gratitude is just another skill we all need to learn and practise. Also, the old principle "*The more you practise, the better you get”* is perfectly valid here.

In the light of this *discovery*, I have tried, with almost every generation of students I had, to teach and practise gratitude. It turned out to be, almost without exception, a lengthy process which took us from *''But mom knows I am grateful for everything she does for me* or *''I don't have to say thank you to him/her- they're my friends”* to expressing intentional gratitude. And, yes, some *Thanksgiving* classroom activities can do the trick!

Although this year's celebration of *Thanksgiving* happened with most of us being unable to render thanks in person, I believe it was heartfelt. As I was aiming for impact, I chose to devise and deliver activities that were short and to the point.

Thus, using the match up activity listed below as a starting point, I *embarked* one of my classes (9D) on a guided discussion on friendship (how much we really owe to our friends, types of friends, reasons to be thankful for etc.)

In addition, as I wanted all my students to be reminded that it was *T- Day*, through a number of statements I posted on the media throughout the day (WA groups mostly), I managed to engage most of them. As a side note, many students who were hard to engage in class joined this activity on

their own free will and made significant contributions.
For the sake of example, I shall include here some of the *answers* they provided to one of the statements they were given to complete.

If she were to take up writing one day, my mother could easily write a book on…

- *human rights* (Lorena, 10A)
- *holiday destinations* (Liviu, 11B)
- *always being right* (Alina, 11B)
- *leadership* (Felix, 9D)
- *home design* (Alexia, 9D)
- *multitasking* (Corina, 10A)
- *hardship* (Georgiana, 11E)
- *cooking and gift wrapping* (Oana, 10A)
- *career planning* (Ionuț, 12E)
- *mending broken hearts (*Roberta, 12 E)
- *a manual for life, basically* (Andrei, 12 E)

Thanksgiving Day is about Giving!

Carmen Sin, Liceul Teoretic *„Alexandru Marghiloman”,* Buzău

"*Thanksgiving is the most beautiful holiday*", one of my students says. The feelings we experience this day are unforgettable, either we have the chance to say thank you to somebody dear to us or to show this to a person or a family in need. This time we have chosen the latter. I must admit, as a coordinator, that this situation due to Covid -19 virus has changed our moods and feelings a lot, we would have never believed such things could happen to us.

Moreover, it is a wonderful moment, which we spend with our loved ones and we must live it to the fullest and to take advantage of our free time that we live with family and friends. In these moments we must forget about worries and always try to smile.

Raluca donated blood for a colleague: *I did it for her, not for me. Not to do me any good, but to her, so that she may have the most beautiful holidays this year after the suffering that seemed to never go away. I am glad that we were able to offer her this little happiness, I am glad that I filled her heart with sincere joy, and I am grateful that I had the reliable help because I alone could not have done so much for her. Not only did I donate clothes and toys, I also donated blood for a girl who no longer had a chance at life, a chance to rejoice that "Santa" is coming and here that God has arranged in such a way that "Santa" came and at her door. I am very happy that we have done this in this period in which we live with increasingly strict restrictions and barriers and we hope all those who have been part of this act of goodwill to be able to repeat it every holiday year.* (Raluca Ene, 12th grade student)

I am writing this message in order to bring a small smile to your face! I want you to be strong and not give up for a moment! Please believe that everything will be fine, and despite this unpleasant period, you must never lose confidence in yourself! I, together with my colleagues from this high school, have united and we have done as much as possible to collect something for you! You are wonderful children, sincere and always smiling. We are aware that you mask what you feel. But please at least now, in front of us to be really happy! We hope that the clothes, toys or food will be useful to you and make you smile!



The pleasure was on our side! People like us only want to make and see good people always happy! We hope that we have achieved what we set out to do and if so, we are also happy for your happiness! I never want to hear you say, "We are different," "We are not like everyone else," because you don't have blood parents with you! Be strong and confident in your own strength! Never give up, you are at height!

I have always been impressed and eager to help and meet simple and pure people, just like you, special people! Never forget these words: "Where there is hope, there is faith. Where there is faith, miracles happen"! We wish you good health, confidence and hope that everything will be fine! (Emilia Tănăsescu)

In my opinion, Thanksgiving is a day when we have to thank people more than usual, to accomplish everything we do not notice even though it helps us even a little. By doing this, we realize that more good things are happening to us than we thought, and we in turn can help others observe. (Adrian Leonard Șerbu)

My family and I are always grateful for what we receive throughout our lives. This day is a reminder for us that thanks should be given every day, not one time of a year and also reminds us of this quality that is crucial in our lives. We should always be grateful for what we have not because it is right, but because there are so many situations around us that remind us now about how much we have and how grateful we should be. Whatever life throws at us, we decide what we do out of it and small things are big things. (Antonio Valentin Ghiță)

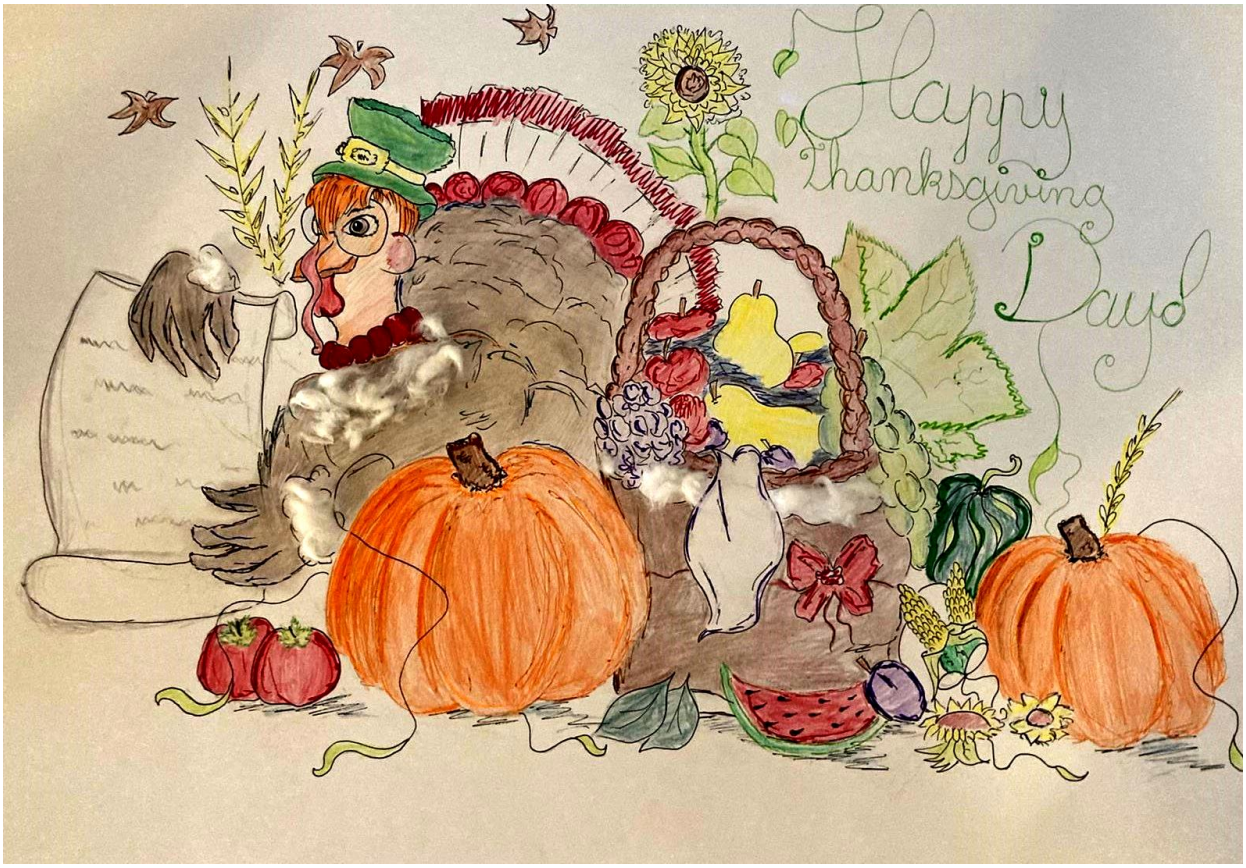
So we share what we have with even the least rich. Children who live in difficult conditions will always gladly receive gifts, so we take them whenever we can clothes, toys or food. We are grateful that we have the power to make others happy. Having this power is absolutely wonderful. (Gabriel Militaru, 12th grade)

Dear friends, be grateful every day of your life. Be content with what God has given you and remember that the gift from gift is made Heaven. With great love and empathy, The L.T.A.M team!





III. Reaping the Richest Harvest of Creativity: project work activities & results; Thanksgiving posters, original drawings, illustrations; functional and creative writing: thank-you letters and notes, thanksgiving poetry, stories and articles



Student: Daniel Florinel Răducanu
Teacher: Mirela Daniela Paraipan, Colegiul Național „*Mihai Eminescu*”, Buzău

A Parrot's Speech on Thanksgiving Day

Student: Alexandra Nistor
Teacher: Liliana Caloian, Colegiul Național „*Mihai Eminescu*”, Buzău

Hiii, I’m Snow, an energetic parrot. Nice to meet you!

Today is a special day for all humans or I think it is. I’ve been here for just about a year now and, even though I’m all settled in, things keep surprising me. Like Thanksgiving, which is, apparently, one of the days called “holidays”.

Last year I was left alone at home because my family went on a short trip. Does it sound sad? It was at first, in my head there were only questions like: “Why am I not a dog or a cat? Are they coming back?” but after this I started playing with my bell and forgot the fact they had left me alone at home. At the end of the day, they were

back home, with a new toy for me and full of love. I was so thankful!

This year, though, we're all home together. Dad is at home this week and he has wanted to eat roast turkey for a couple of days so they have just decided to do things differently. It smells really good! Mom says it doesn't matter when you celebrate Thanksgiving Day. It just matters that you're together and say "Thank you" and remember that there are people — and parrots — who don't have as much as you do. I do understand that!

Before I came to live here I was in a huge gloomy cage with many other parrots. I was tormented and beaten up, until Alexandra saw me and wanted me, and thus I escaped the merciless parrot breeders.

I don't really understand why, but Mom says there are also people who don't have enough to eat. And lots who don't have clean water. And something called "health care", which I think is like when our Auntie comes to visit us. That makes Mom sad. Sometimes it makes her mad, too. She types a lot of letters on some days, and calls people on the phone. Yesterday I heard her say that we'll all be safer if everyone has enough money to live on and the bare necessities.

I'm only a parrot, but I agree with that. It's hard not to get mad, or mean, when you don't have enough and others have too much.

Here are some more things I have learned about Thanksgiving this year… There have been lots and lots of things that smelt green in our fridge. You know, like leaves. Mom says that's a new Thanksgiving tradition. The turkey came from our friend, Marian. I think, maybe, other families celebrate the Thanksgiving Day differently. My family says different is ok.

Maybe Thanksgiving is about each of us finding our own way. Showing gratitude is one of the simplest, yet most powerful things humans and all the other beings can do for each other. Thanksgiving is a time of togetherness and gratitude.

From all of us to all of you, Happy Thanksgiving! And thank you for listening to me, Snow, a parrot enjoying love and comfort, together with its family.

And here comes the amber autumn

Student: Octavian Popa
Teacher: Rodica Medianu, Şcoala Gimnazială nr. 7, Buzău

And here comes the amber autumn
Sharing with us its plenty,
Our cellars with food filling,
Our souls with gratitude completing.



And here comes majestic autumn
Reminding us: Be thankful!
Round the tables together us bringing
With joyful, blessing smiles welcoming.

Gratitude…

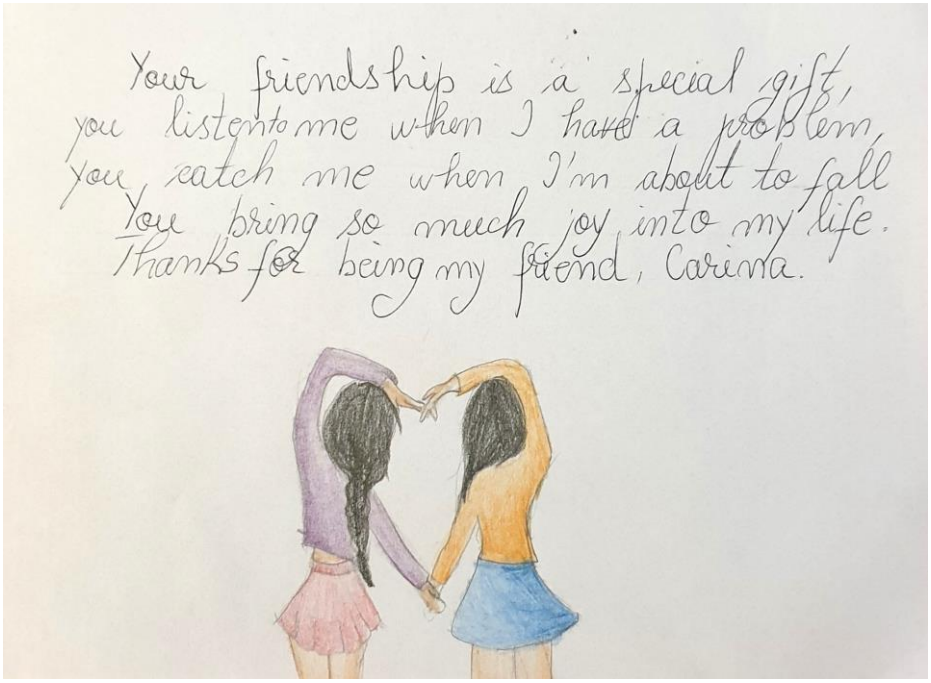
Student: Emilia-Gabriela Pușcă
Teacher: Liliana Caloian, Colegiul Național *„Mihai Eminescu”*, Buzău

When I cast shy glances
At everything around me
I feel indebted to thank
My dearest parents.

As everything I have met along the way
And everything I still meet,
Is the work of their love and trust,
I thank them for that!

Under the sign of gratitude,
I bow deeply before you, time after time,
And from the bottom of my heart, with faith,
I thank you ever so much!

And on a beautiful morning,
When the dawn appears mysteriously,
For everything I have encountered in life
I want to profusely thank you!



Student: Ildiko Beatrix Pataki
Teacher: Camelia Luminița Anghel, „Liceul Tehnologic Meserii și Servicii”, Buzău

Thank you, God!

Student: Piticaru Roxana
Teacher: Liliana Caloian, Colegiul Național *„Mihai Eminescu*”, Buzău

It is a common thing to thank somebody for helping you and making your work easier. That's what this word says and it is often considered a formality. I for one, I take it to a completely different level, to the level of soul-thanking if I might say so... I will prove this with an example, thanking God.

First of all, I thank Him from the bottom of my heart for strengthening me in a hard way, but this is how I was sadly prepared for life before everyone else. At the age of 13 I lost my father, a handsome man, who lost the fight with cancer and 6 months later I lost my mother, in a way that is utterly painful to mention, I can only say that I lost her 5 days before Christmas, and that Christmas was different from everything. I thank God because I know how much they loved each other, and I understand that they could not stay without each other, and He brought them together, two angels who take care of us. My life has changed since then, and for that I thank Him again, I got a restart, a new family, I moved in with my sisters and my brother. My elder sister, my heroine, decided to become my and my brother's legal guardian - my brother was 7 years old at the time. Besides, like a pillar was then my brother-in-law ... who, showing great determination and unwavering love, took over my father's responsibilities sooner than I would have imagined.

Secondly, I thank Him for the wonderful woman, my sister, who has given my second father to me. Despite the huge loss, she didn't leave me alone, but she helped me to share my life with a person who would make me really strong, who would make me never forget who I am, who will guide me, and , if I should fall down , will be there to pick me up

We often hear an ordinary-sounding „thank you”, but here I have hopefully shown you what being eternally grateful to God means to me.

The Beauty of Life

Student: Maria Daniela Dobre
Teacher: Liliana Caloian, Colegiul Național „*Mihai Eminescu*”, Buzău

All of us are hiding scars
that we’d rather not talk about
but we always choose to smile
for the sun to hopefully rise
for others, if not for us.

Thank you, my dear friends
and my beautiful family
what would I have done without you
every time I have lost myself
in the darkness of my own mind?

Everytime I felt numb,
everytime I cried,
I knew you would feel my pain
and every single time,
you would not let me be sad.
Ultimately, I thank myself
because I did
face so many things
and have made it through,
picked myself up
through every fight
never stopped hoping
as I’ve always been a dreamer,
a hopeless romantic,
and an art seeker.
Friends, nature,
family, or even
beautiful little creatures
like kittens, puppies,
who light up our hearts.

So many beautiful things
surrounding us
to be thankful for
on this beautiful day
which always reminds us
of the beauty of life.

The Story of One of the Most Difficult Homework

Student: Georgiana Vlădescu
Teacher: Mihaela Neacșu, Liceul Teoretic *„Radu Vlădescu”*, Pătârlagele

I'm not a talkative person and I find it difficult to tell people what I feel. Teenagers don't like doing things like that! I can't even imagine myself standing in front of one of my parents, relatives or friends telling them what I feel.

And imagine what? Yesterday I got the most difficult homework: my teacher of English asked me and my classmates to tell somebody from my family how much I love and appreciate her/him. I thought it would be my first 3!

Yet, later at home, I knew I had to do my homework. It was hard to make my decision: WHO? Who is the person I appreciate the most? It was awful: only one person! Thousands of ideas came into my mind. I looked around me and suddenly I knew: the person I had always appreciated, the person I was going to tell my love to! And, yes! Which are the perfect words to use? Should I write something and rehearse in front of my mirror for hours? Should I stay calm and wait: somewhere deep in the eyes in front of me I will find my words, clearly written and waiting for me to read and give them life? Moreover, think of the perfect moment, the perfect place! Or, maybe these don't matter? Don't matter at all or don't matter too much? I remember the smile on my teacher's face… another lesson… another experience…

I chose my mom to be the person I'd show my gratitude and appreciation yesterday, on Thanksgiving Day. I do not thank her very often, leaving the impression that she's already aware of what I feel for her, but I am not entirely sure if she is or not, so that's the reason why I dedicated the day to her.

She'd been at work all day, so I was sure that she'd come home very tired. After doing the basic work that she gives me every time such as keeping the house all warm and doing the laundry and the dishes, I also thought it would have been a good idea to clean her room, which she hadn't had time to do that morning, and water the plants in the house. But what was the hardest thing to do, but also the one I put most effort into, was preparing one of her favourite meals. I also made for her a cup of tea because I knew she always enjoys it.

My mom showed up shortly after everything had been done, and the face she had, walking into the kitchen, was by all means priceless. She was really tired, but became really happy. Now what came next was a bit hard for me, because I'm not too good at talking about my feelings, especially in front of family members, but, since it was the right thing to do, I told my mom how much I'd appreciated every little thing she had done for me till then, that I had always been aware of her care and that I wanted her to be sure of my feelings.

Little tears could be seen in her eyes but I knew her heart was dancing! It was a special day, so special for both of us! Happy Thanksgiving Day, mom!



Student: Teodora Podaru
Teacher: Liliana Caloian, Colegiul Național
„*Mihai Eminescu*”, Buzău

Letter to My Grandparents

Student: Alexandra Paraschiv
Teacher: Mihaela Neacşu, Liceul Teoretic *„Radu Vlădescu”*, Pătârlagele

Dear grandparents,

I'm sorry because I haven't written to you for a long time, but school takes all my time.

On Thanksgiving Day I want to thank you for everything you have done for me, for all the love you have shown to me, for the warmth of your soul, the advice you gave me when I was in trouble and for all the moments we have spent together. For those long vacations when, even if I did stupid things, you forgave me immediately. For all the food that has a special taste, especially grandma's donuts, and also for all my stupid ideas that always came alive with grandpa's help. You have taught me to love, to dream and to thank God for everything. I will never forget your jokes, grandpa, or your stories, grandma!

I love you so! Take care of you!

Dearfully,
Alexandra

Letter to My Mother

Student: Emilia Matei
Teacher: Mihaela Neacşu, Liceul Teoretic *„Radu Vlădescu”*, Pătârlagele

Dear mother,

This Thanksgiving, I want to thank you for everything you have done for my well-being, for guiding me on the right path and for helping me reach my dreams.

Words can't really express how grateful I am for you always being there when I was sick and spending sleepless nights to make sure I was feeling better, for coming to support me at every school event, for trying to understand me even when I let my anger out on you, for your gentle hugs and kisses, for every meal full of warmth and love you prepared for me and for all of the other countless wonderful things you have done to bring hope and positivity in my life ever since I was born.

As I got older, I realised how many sacrifices you have made in order to give me a more prosperous and enjoyable life than you had when you were a child and I could never thank you enough for that.

This year has felt longer, more difficult to pass through, full of challenges and worries, but you were by my side like a beacon of light that lead the way through the dark night.

I hope that from now on you will be healthy, happy and lively, as I know you are and that I will get to cherish your presence even many years into the future. Happy Thanksgiving Day!

With all my love, your daughter,
Emilia

Thank you!

Student: Sorana Cernat
Teachers: Mihaela Lazăr & Georgeta Oprea,
Colegiul Național Pedagogic „*Spiru Haret*” Buzău

Universe, I don’t know when or how you
will receive this message
But years and years pass
I also keep receiving gifts from you
And yes, I want to say “Thank you”
Thanks for my family
Thanks for my talent
Thanks for the luck
Thanks for the gift of life.

Thanks for
Family and friends, always here with me
Nature I can see
Creation I can produce
Skills I can use
Love I receive
The life I live.
Thank you for the gift of dreaming
Which keeps me hopeful
Thank you for the sad moments I lived.



Student: Ilie Crăciun
Teacher: Adriana Radu, Şcoala Gimnazială Smeeni

Thank You, Teacher!

Student: Sorana Cernat
Teachers: Mihaela Lazăr & Georgeta Oprea,
Colegiul Național Pedagogic „*Spiru Haret”*, Buzău

Thank you for your support, your appreciation, your hard work and your cool personality! Thank you! This is the right moment to tell you! I am so happy to have you as my teacher! It is an honor and I am not joking. With you, English classes are funnier and so cool. The English class is one of my favourite classes and, because of you, I improved my English and I am more confident. Before I was very scared and shy, but now I Im ready for every challenging thing. No teacher had ever told me ”I am proud of you” before. I am proud and blessed to have you as my teacher. I love you!

With big love,

Sorana



Student: Sorana Cernat
Teachers: Mihaela Lazăr & Georgeta Oprea, Colegiul Național Pedagogic „*Spiru Haret”* Buzău



Student: Maria Alexandra Ranete
Teacher: Ramona Bănulescu, Școala Gimnazială „Căpitan Aviator Mircea T. Bădulescu”, Buzău

What I Am Grateful for

Student: Sorana Cernat
Teachers: Mihaela Lazăr& Georgeta Oprea, Colegiul Național Pedagogic „Spiru Haret” Buzău

I am grateful for:
All the beautiful moments
That are in my soul like ornaments
And warm my heart when I think of them
Being there like a beautiful gem.

I am grateful for:
All the time with my family
Which smiles beautifully and lives happily
That cry with me and pray for me
There is no other place I’d rather be.

I am grateful for:
All the help I get
That I will never forget
Because good people exist
Good people that won’t leave you when you need them the most
And they will always insist
Because you aren’t just an almost.



Student: Ana Ivan
Teacher: Adriana Radu, Școala Gimnazială Smeeni

Let's Give Thanks!

Student: Teodora Olteanu
Teacher: Mirela Daniela Paraipan, Colegiul Național „Mihai Eminescu", Buzău

After this dreadful year, a day for gratitude is the best way to let all these problems away. This virus has created a lot of agitation and without the wonderful things in our life our soul would be empty.

Let's talk a little about this thanksgiving tradition. Thanksgiving is a federal holiday in the United States, celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. It is sometimes called American Thanksgiving (outside the United States) to distinguish it from the Canadian holiday of the same name. It originated as a harvest festival, and to this day the centerpiece of Thanksgiving celebrations remains Thanksgiving dinner. The dinner traditionally consists of foods and dishes indigenous to the Americas, namely turkey, potatoes (usually mashed), stuffing, squash, corn (maize), green beans, cranberries (typically in sauce form), and pumpkin pie. Thanksgiving is regarded as being the beginning of the fall – winter holiday season, along with Christmas and the New Year, in American culture.

Now that you know what Thanksgiving is about, I want to ask yourself 2 questions: 1. *As a Romanian citizen, have you ever sat down with your family around the table to have dinner together and share the things you are grateful for?* and 2. *What are you really grateful for?* I really want you to think about this one and don't think about material objects, like a phone or a ps5 or clothes, think about the deepest things, for example: I am grateful for my family, my friends, my teachers, for all the good and bad events that happened in my life because all of them changed me in a better person. I'm grateful to God, because I'm alive and I'm healthy and I can be around people that I love.

I am really sad because in Romania we don't have Thanksgiving, but I'm hoping that some of us will be with their family and talk about gratefulness. Even if you are alone, don't forget that you are loved and there are still a lot of things that you should be grateful for. It's always important to spread a lot of positivity and this is why this tradition is important.

Happy Thanksgiving!

Letter to My Mother

Student: Denisa Stănilă
Teacher: Valentin Baciu, Școala Gimnazială Nr. 11, Buzău

Dear mother,

First of all, thank you for being my mother. I am glad that I grew up with such a wonderful person. You are cute and beautiful. You are a real fighter. When you smile, you make my day more beautiful no matter what happened that day.

I am grateful to you because you feed me, raise me, take care of me, love me, have not abandoned me, and most importantly, you are my mother. You want me to be well at any time of the day, you love me no matter what I did. You are the perfect mother! I love you!

Love,

Your daughter, Denisa



Student: Andreea Cristina Văduva
Teacher: Mirela Daniela Paraipan, Colegiul Național „*Mihai Eminescu*”, Buzău

Extending Thanks

Student: Mario Rodinel State
Teacher: Mirela Daniela Paraipan, Colegiul Național „*Mihai Eminescu*”, Buzău

Dear Universe,

I’m writing this letter in order to give my sincere thanks to everyone and everything that I’m thankful for.

First of all, I want to thank my parents, especially my mother, who gave me birth, which is the most valuable thing that someone can give to you, and who overcame many issues to bring me up and to get sure I wouldn’t suffer as much as she did, and who whatever has happened, has been by my side.

I’m also very thankful to my grandparents, who have always had a lot of love and compassion for me and who are also housing me during my high school period.

Also, I thank a lot to God, who gave us this entire wonderful planet called “The Earth”, without which I wouldn’t be here now, living this wonderful thing called “life”, and to this world’s heroes, without whom for sure the humanity wouldn’t have evolved like that.

Then, I want to say thanks to my friends, whether fake or real, especially the real ones. I’m so thankful to them because they have been there whenever I needed them and because they proved so much compassion, which is also one of the most valuable things that someone can give to you. And also, I’m thankful to the fake ‘friends’ who, in spite of lying and disappointing me a lot, taught me important lessons sooner than it was supposed to happen.

I thank you all the people and things that have taken part of my life because whatever their purpose, they helped and taught me a lot, which made me much stronger!

Yours thankfully,
Mario



Student: Sorana Cernat
Teachers: Mihaela Lazăr & Georgeta Oprea, Colegiul Național Pedagogic „*Spiru Haret*”, Buzău

Learning to be thankful

Student: Alexandra Prună
Teacher: Andreea Neagu, Colegiul Național „*Alexandru Vlahuță*”, Râmnicu Sărat

The wind is running through my hair, making my mind wander. It may be cold outside but in my soul a flame burst once the nature called to rest and left its treasures behind. The cold streets are empty, only the sound of footprints break the stiff foggy silence from time to time.

Today, the nature is silent, but the homes of people are brought to life by the laughers that fill the forever cold walls. Time passes, and the nature takes now place in celebration with its last breath dancing to the rhythm of the wild wind.

I am home now. As soon as I passed the doorway a wave of happiness and peace took my body and placed it above every other feeling. My house feels warmer from every soul that stands in the dining room. My eyes and body talked, and chose to freeze and observe. It’s suddenly thanksgiving from ten years ago. I see my little self-standing on a beautiful wooden chair, made especially for me. All of my relatives were talking, my mom was bringing more and more plates for the food was irresistible. I now can see thunders of joy that struck every person's soul, besides mine. In my eyes you could see a spark of sadness, that shouldn’t be present in the eyes of a child. I wasn’t able to understand adults’ conversations and I had no younger relative fact that pinned me to the chair and covered my soul from being thankful for all the other days that I could spend with my friends. In all of my mind mixed feelings were playing and made me hate that day.

All of my senses began to come back to me, rushing along with past emotions. I was so naïve. I looked back at the table, my family was waiting for me, radiating joy from being able to see each other. I walked slowly, and with each step I felt more and more present and thankful for what I had. Soon the smell of freshly cooked potatoes and turkey danced with my nose and made my mouth crave the unique taste of the holiday. Time flew besides us yet it felt like an eternity. Our house was covered by contentment and the clouds above

seemed to pour more happiness inside. I felt my soul completely relaxed after realizing that all I needed to do in order to be happy was to be grateful. And so, as everyone thanked the world, I, for the first time felt the need to thank the time for allowing me to grow and learn how to be grateful for every detail of the life which gives it colour and for my soul that learned to love every moment, not only the ones it craved.

On that Thanksgiving Day, I was my teacher and student, learning how to appreciate every strike that the sky hit us with, because it only built a new way for ourselves to run another time to the finish line, getting better and stronger.

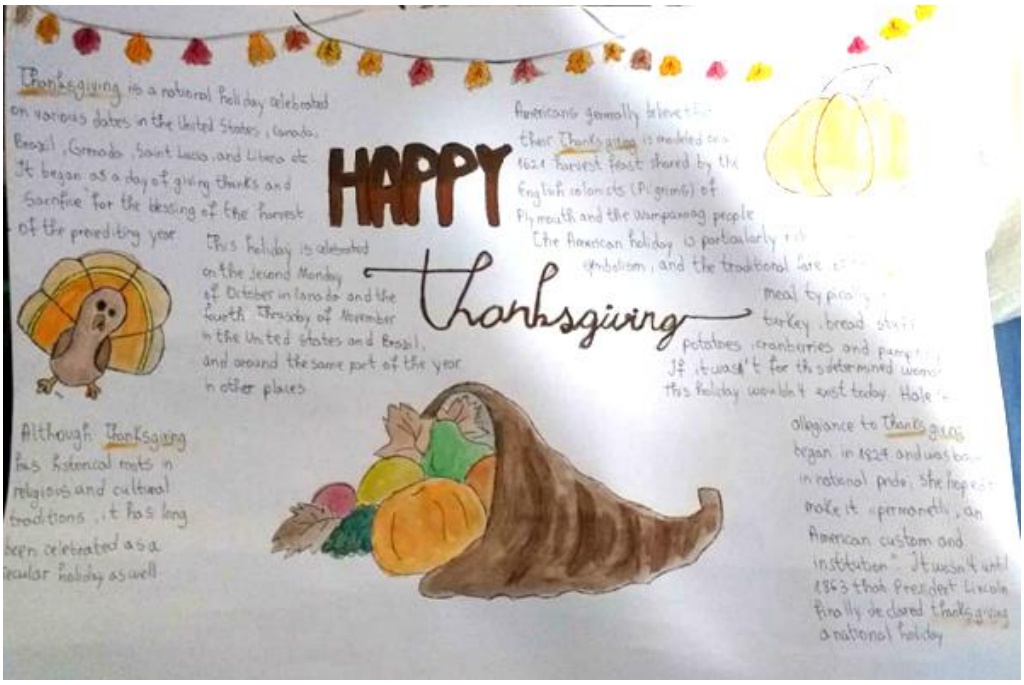
Thanksgiving in a Nutshell

Student: Cătălin Simion
Teacher: Cristiana Grozavu, Școala Gimnazială „*Căpitan Aviator Mircea T. Bădulescu"*, Buzău

The first Thanksgiving was in 1621. The Pilgrims were new to America and did not know to grow food or hunt animals. Many of them died. The Native Americans taught them how to grow corn, pumpkins and beans. They also taught the Pilgrims how to fish and hunt. The next year after their arrival, the Pilgrims had a big harvest. The Pilgrims were very thankful and grateful. They had a huge feast to celebrate the new harvest and to give thanks to the Indians. The feast lasted for three days. This is how Thanksgiving started.

Thanksgiving Day is a harvest celebration. Traditionally, it was a time to give thanks for a big harvest. It is also a holiday to express appreciation to family and friends. This is why it is celebrated with the family.

Now, Thanksgiving is celebrated on the fourth Thursday of November. Thanksgiving is a time when families come together and eat a lot of food. They eat big turkeys and cranberries and pumpkin pie. It is a day of gratitude and appreciation. Everybody talks about what they are thankful for. Many are thankful for their families, friends, good food and the good things in their lives.



Student: Bianca Alexia Nistor
Teacher: Mirela Daniela Paraipan, Colegiul Național „*Mihai Eminescu*", Buzău

Gratitude

Student: Alexandra Prună
Teacher: Andreea Neagu, Colegiul Național „Alexandru Vlahuță”, Râmnicu Sărat

For the breath that was given to me I am thankful,
Despite the lessons that were yet to come.
For the house that I start and end my days in I thank you,
In spite of bad and short ones.
For my body that I get to call a home,
Thank you for giving it a light soul.
For when days were being heavy,
Thank you mom for making them wavy.
I thank you, grandparents, for making my world sparkle
When I was a child that wanted to be filled with laughter.
Thank you, time, for making me grow.
You taught me lessons that couldn’t pass without being known.
And, Universe, I must thank you above all
For giving me space to understand the unknown



Student: Ștefan Daniel Horneț
Teacher: Adriana Radu, Școala Gimnazială Smeeni

Thankfulness

Teacher: Roxana Chiagă, Școala Gimnazială Gherăseni



Might seem simple,
Yet is not.
Mirror to a child's heart.
Colour, joy and playfulness
And above all
Thankfulness.

It is only with such soul
One can make it through it all.
And the family is what
Brings most joy to every heart.

Thus, be thankful every day
For the smiles, the love and play,
For the happiness or sorrow,
For today and for tomorrow.

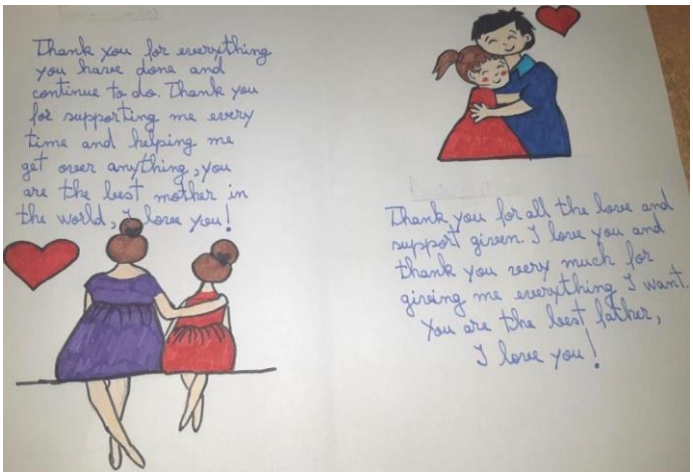
Student: Georgiana Coleș
Teacher: Mihaela Neacșu, Liceul Teoretic "*Radu Vlădescu*", Pătârlagele

Thank You, Dear Parents!

Student: Iulia Topan
Teacher: Angelica Stîngă, Școala Gimnazială „N.I. Jilinschi", Vernești

Thank you for everything you have done and continue to do. Thank you for supporting me every time and helping me get over anything, you are the best mother in the world, I love you!

Thank you for all the love and support given. I love you and thank you very much for giving me everything I want. You are the best father, I love you!





Student: Delia Pîndaru, Teacher: Ramona Bănulescu,
Școala Gimnazială „Căpitan Aviator Mircea T. Bădulescu”, Buzău



Collage Poster by students: Denisa Sburlan, Ruxandra Vulpe, Eduard Pleștiu and Cătălina Zota
Teacher: Raluca Filipache, Liceul de Arte "Margareta Sterian", Buzău

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