

SCHOOL LIFE

On the 1st of November Bulgarians celebrate the National Educators and Leaders of the Bulgarian Revival Day. On this day we pay our respects to the deeds of the men of letters, the educators and the fighters for national liberation who over the centuries managed to preserve the spiritual and moral values of the nation.

Among the most celebrated such individuals are John of Rila, Constantine Vladislav the Grammarian, Paisius of Hilendar, Neofit Rilski, Vasil Levski, Hristo Botev, Hadzhi Dimitar, Ivan Vazov, Lyuben Karavelov and others.

Paisius of Hilendar is deservedly famous for being the most eminent leader of the Bulgarian National Revival. In 1762, over two and a half centuries ago, Paisius of Hilendar wrote his short book called *Istoriya Slavyanobolgarskaya* (translated in English as Slavonic-Bulgarian History). His first follower is Bishop Sophronius of Vratsa. During hard times for the Bulgarian population he wrote educational books and worked for achieving political freedom for the nation.

After the Liberation of Bulgaria both the intellectuals and the average people came to realize the heroic achievements of the writers and revolutionaries of the Bulgarian National Revival, who had created the atmosphere and lead the Bulgarian spirit to a state of readiness to start fighting for national sovereignty.

In 1922 Stoyan Omarchevski, the Minister of National Education of Bulgaria, made a proposal at a meeting of the cabinet to make the 1st of November the National Educators and Leaders of the Bulgarian Revival Day. It was first celebrated in Plovdiv in 1909, while from 1922 to 1945 it was celebrated all over Bulgaria. In 1945 the celebrating of this holiday was cancelled, while on 28th of October 1992 the tradition of celebrating it was resumed after the passing of the Labour Code Amendment Act of 1992. The 1st of November was officially declared the National Educators and Leaders of the Bulgarian Revival Day and since then has been a holiday for all schools in the country.

DEAR PARENTS,

I would like to share with you my absolute conviction that really worthy results could be achieved in the educational activities only if there is genuine cooperation between the participants in the common school activities: parents, teachers and students.

Clearly defined rules and conscious adherence to them are a necessary condition for the creation and the sustainable development of any successful organization. One of the main requirements is the regular and active attendance of the school classes.

The School Rulebook was explained to you at the first parent-teacher meeting of this year. The homeroom teachers have been informing in details for the actions which you need to take as parents in case your child is absent from classes regardless of the reason for that.

The examinations performed by the School Management found out some rare cases of oversights in connection with the correct drawing of the documentation for excusing the absences. In order to improve this process and to minimise the amount of unintentional oversights, we implemented in a timely fashion a Procedure for Dealing with Absences.

Procedure for Dealing with Absences is pursuant to Art. 129B, Para. 1, Item 3 and 4, and Art. 137 and 137a of the Regulations for the Implementation of the People's Education Act.

The role of the parents in regards to following the rules is extremely important. Regarding this, I would like to inform you about the main points of the Procedure for Dealing with Absences at the Aleko Konstantinov Primary School.

1. In case the absence is due to sickness, the parent informs the homeroom teacher on the first day in which the student is absent. The doctor's note is presented on the first day when the student comes back to school.
2. In case of absences which are excused because of a document issued by a sports club in which the student is a member, the parent submits a written application listing the reason for the absences one day before the event. The document from the sports club should be attached to the application submitted by the parent or be presented in the first day when the student comes back to school.
3. In case of absences for family reasons which are allowed by the homeroom teacher, the parent submits a written notification to the administrative office at school a day before the student starts its absence.
4. In case of absences for family reasons which are allowed by the Principal, the parent submits a written application to the administrative office at school a day before the student starts its absence.
5. If a student is late up to 15 minutes for the first class of the day, the absence is recorded as 1/3 non-excused absence.
6. A listed absence after the first class of the day, for which there is no excuse note or it happened due to the student being ejected from class, is recorded as a non-excused absence.
7. In case of an absence of a student for whom there is no information given in advance by a parent, the homeroom teacher is obliged to talk on the phone with a parent before the end of the day.
8. If the teacher is unable to get in touch with the parent and the student is absent on the following two days too, the teacher should visit his home.
9. If the teacher is absent for more than three days and the homeroom teacher has received no information from a parent regarding the reasons for his absence, the teacher notifies by means of a written report listing the actions taken by them the deputy principal responsible for the educational activities as well as the Child Protection Services department.
10. In case there are 5 non-excused absences in a single month, the Principal notifies in writing the Welfare Agency in order for them to take action to stop the payment of the child benefits.
11. The homeroom teacher starts a procedure for penalising the student when the student reaches 5 or more non-excused absences.
12. The homeroom teacher starts a procedure for the student to take exams in case the number of excused absences reaches 100 and the term grade or annual grade in one or more school subject is unable to be determined in the normal way.

DEAR PARENTS,

I am convinced that our love for our children and our interest in their future development are a powerful factor which motivate each and every one of us to do our obligations in regards to the correct dealing with absences. This really is of utmost importance in order for our children to feel at ease at school and to develop successfully.

RESPECTFULLY:

KRASIMIR ANGELOV
PRINCIPAL

A Necklace of Medals for One Talented Child

Dariya Neycheva of Class 2B performs authentic folklore songs. In just a year she has managed

to place in one of the top places a lot of times - she got a gold medal at the Orpheus Spring competition, a gold medal at the Road to Glory competition, a silver medal at the Nedelinski Dvuglas National Folklore festival, a bronze medal at the Eurofol Live Water Folklore Championship, a bronze medal for a patriotic song authored by her at a competition in Panagyurishte and a diploma from the First International Arts Festival held in Spain. Dariya once again showed her incredible talent by winning a gold medal, a gold plaque and a gold statuette at the Crossroads of Muses Festival. Mr. Angelov congratulated the student before the students from grades 2-4 and her parents.

Dariya, we are proud of you!
Mariyana Naydenova - homeroom teacher of Class 2B.