

The School Times

September '20

#7



Named in honor of Joseph Brodsky

School #21 will held an honorable name of Nobel Prize winner.

The municipal budgetary educational institution “Gymnasium №21” is one of the oldest schools in the city of Arkhangelsk. Last year in December we celebrated the 80th anniversary since its foundation. But a year later we had a new great event that we could not even expect.

On December 24, 2019 a ceremony of awarding the school name of Nobel Prize winner Joseph Brodsky was held in our assembly hall. Elena Rostovskaya, representative of the Educational department of our city, presented the official Resolution on the naming of our school after Joseph Brodsky to the head of the gymnasium, Tatiana Borovikova.

Graduates, teachers, parents, students, honorable guests - all those who anxiously had been waiting for this momentous event listened to the principal of the gymnasium, Tatiana Borovikova and 11th grade student Mikhail Trifonov who gave the audience the opportunity to touch the pages of the poet's life. The actor of the Arkhangelsk theater Ilya Loginov and 11th grade student Sergei Bakin performed philosophical poems of J. Brodsky which make us think about eternal things.

Literary critic, philologist and translator, professor at the University of Strasbourg, friend of the poet Mikhail Meilakh told about those years which Brodsky spent in the village of Norinskaya in Arkhangelsk Region. He also presented the poet's photo and the book “Brodsky in exile” on behalf of the Joseph Brodsky Foundation.

The assignment of the gymnasium named after Joseph Brodsky is a tribute to the respect and preservation of the memory of the brilliant poet. It is honorable and, at the same time, very responsible. It opens up new possibilities in research activities of our students in Russian and foreign languages. It will also help to increase interest in literary reading, translation, and the development of intercultural communication and international cooperation.

— *by Olga Pravilova, Deputy Head of School №21*

The life of Joseph Brodsky

Joseph Brodsky was a Russian-American poet and essayist. He was born in 1940, in Leningrad, and began writing poetry when he was eighteen. Anna Akhmatova soon recognized in the young poet the most gifted lyric voice of his generation. From March 1964 until November 1965, Brodsky lived in exile in the Arkhangelsk region of Northern Russia; he had been sentenced to five years in exile at hard labor for "social parasitism," but did not serve out his term.



Four of Brodsky's poems were published in Leningrad anthologies in 1966 and 1967, but most of his work has appeared only in the West. He is a splendid poetic translator and has translated into Russian, among others, the English metaphysical poets, and the Polish poet, Czeslaw Milosz. His own poetry has been translated into at least ten languages. Joseph Brodsky: Selected Poems was published by Penguin Books in London (1973), and by Harper & Row in New York (1974), translated by George L. Kline and with a foreword by W.H. Auden. A volume of Brodsky's selected poems translated in French has been published by Gallimard; a German translation, by Piper Verlag; and an Italian translation, by Mondadori and Adelphi. Farrar, Straus, and Giroux published Brodsky's acclaimed collection, A Part of Speech, in 1980.

On June 4, 1972, Joseph Brodsky became an involuntary exile from his native country. After brief stays in Vienna and London, he came to the United States. He has been Poet-in-Residence and Visiting Professor at the University of Michigan, Queens College, Smith College, Columbia University, and Cambridge University in England. He currently is Five College Professor of Literature at Mount Holyoke College. In 1978, Brodsky was awarded an honorary degree of Doctor of Letters at Yale University, and on May 23, 1979, he was inducted as

a member of the American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters. In 1981, Brodsky was a recipient of the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation's award for his works of "genius".

In 1986, Farrar, Straus, and Giroux published *Less Than One*, a collection of Mr. Brodsky's essays on the arts and politics, which won the National Book Critic's Award for Criticism, in 1988 a collection of his poetry, *To Urania*, and in 1992 a collection of essays about Venice, *Watermark*.

Awards and honors

1978 – Honorary degree of Doctor of Letters, Yale University
 1979 – Fellowship of American Academy and Institute of Arts and Letters
 1981 – John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation award
 1986 – Honorary doctorate of literature from Oxford University
 The International Center in New York's Award of Excellence
 1986 – National Book Critics Award for Criticism, for *Less Than One* (essay collection)
 1987 – Nobel Prize
 1989 – Honorary doctorate from the University of Essex
 1989 – Honorary degree from Dartmouth College
 1991 – honorary doctorate from the Faculty of Humanities at Uppsala University, Sweden
 1991 – United States Poet Laureate

A Song

I wish you were here, dear,
 I wish you were here.
 I wish you sat on the sofa
 and I sat near.

The handkerchief could be yours,
 the tear could be mine, chin-bound.
 Though it could be, of course,
 the other way around.

I wish you were here, dear,
 I wish you were here.
 I wish we were in my car
 and you'd shift the gear.

We'd find ourselves elsewhere,
 on an unknown shore.
 Or else we'd repair to where
 we've been before.

I wish you were here, dear,
 I wish you were here.
 I wish I knew no astronomy
 when stars appear,

when the moon skims the water
 that sighs and shifts in its slumber.
 I wish it were still a quarter
 to dial your number.

I wish you were here, dear,
 in this hemisphere,
 as I sit on the porch
 sipping a beer.

It's evening, the sun is setting;
 boys shout and gulls are crying.
 What's the point of forgetting
 if it's followed by dying?

— Joseph Brodsky

1991 – Struga Poetry Evenings Golden Wreath Award

1993 – Honorary degree from the University of Silesia in Poland

Brodsky is a Honorary member of the International Academy of Science

The rubbish separated today is the chance for our planet tomorrow



Every year students' conference of investigations dealing with our region is held in Arkhangelsk. It is called "Lomonosov's Readings". This year Sofia Shishmakova, student of 9A form took part in it and her research was devoted to a very urgent problem.

I am sure that every reader has already heard of separate rubbish collection and knows that it is a selective waste collection and is done in order to avoid mixing of different types of waste and pollution of the environment.

In autumn I took interest in this topic and decided to study the situation with separate garbage in Arkhangelsk. I did the research and was surprised to find out that 351 thousand people living in our town produce about 143 thousand tons of household rubbish which is 25% of the total amount of solid household waste of the Arkhangelsk region. It turns out that one resident of Arkhangelsk produces about 400 kg of garbage annually and this is a huge problem for our region and our city.

The project on separate garbage collection in Arkhangelsk started almost two years ago and today there are 146 containers on 97 sites. These are yellow-blue bins. The yellow part of the bins is responsible for glass, aluminum and plastic whereas the blue part is responsible for paper and cardboard. But how many citizens do separate their rubbish today? To see the situation more clearly I decided to interview the students of our school. 140 students took part in my survey and the results showed that all of them know what separate rubbish collection is. Unfortunately, only 19% are engaged in it whereas the remaining 81% are not. But why? There were lots of different reasons to it: 19% are sure there are no special containers in our town, 14% say they are not interested in it; 9% admit they don't have time for it; 6% think all wastes are taken to one landfill; 6% claim that the containers are far away from their houses; 4% do

not know where these bins are located and 2% do not have enough space in the kitchen to keep some extra bins for waste sorting.

So the separate rubbish collection problem is of great importance and is to be dealt with immediately otherwise we will face a serious ecological disaster. It is necessary to start handling the situation today and it would be good to begin with the younger generations. Schools, kindergartens and children's organisations should hold different festivals, events, programs, competitions aimed at familiarising children with this problem and accustoming them to separate rubbish collection. It is also important to inform the citizens about the location of the containers and bring to their attention the information about the recycling enterprises we have and their activity in order to refute the erroneous opinion that the wastes from the coloured bins are also taken to one land-fill site. It is important to oblige both the public and private organisations to use separate rub-

bish bins and also the representatives of housing and communal services to remove waste chutes from the blocks of flats and to provide houses with the coloured bins for separate collection of rubbish. Also we should not forget about the pensioners actively involving them in this process and developing the ways of encouraging the most active ones. We can interview them, make television programs about them thereby showing how useful and easy separate rubbish collection is.

To sum up, I urge all of you to pay attention to such a thing as waste separation. If this problem is solved, separate rubbish collection can become a part of our way of life and our culture and help to cope with many environmental problems of our region. It doesn't require much effort but if you start doing it, you will help our planet! If each of us does something small, it will become something big.

— by Sofia Shishmakova,
student of 9A form



Our exchange should be continued



At the very beginning of April 2019 students of the 9-10 forms and four teachers of our gymnasium were lucky to visit a beautiful and colorful country, which always amazes visitors with its people, nature and landscapes so they fall in love with absolutely everything.

During this trip, we were able to meet new people, to see many fascinating and impressive places, plunge into the atmosphere of school everyday life of Norwegian students and demonstrate our knowledge of foreign languages, including Norwegian. Each day was interesting for us in its own way: on the first day we met the first and second year students, visited Sea Museum and the farm, celebrated Norwegian Easter. On the next day we went on a mini-trip to the Hurtigruten museum. The days we spent in Norway were so busy that the fourth day, despite the fact that we performed very well at the concert and learned fiery dances with a Spanish teacher, an excellent dancer, became for us the most

exciting and sad, since we became very friendly with the Norwegian pupils and we did not want to leave at all.

In addition I would like to express my gratitude to the parents of our hosts, as they took us to the most picturesque places and helped us to feel all the fabulousness and mystery of Norway. Thanks to those who participated in organizing this trip, especially the Barents Secretariat and tutor of this project from the Norwegian side, the teacher of Norwegian and Russian Sarah Hansen (Sara Kristin Hansson). Now we can only look forward to our new meeting with our Norwegian friends in Arkhangelsk! Welcome to Russia in autumn!

— *by Sofia Karpova, 11B form*



Russian Speech with a Scandinavian Accent

The students of Arkhangelsk hosted their Norwegian friends. The teenagers actually came to the capital of Pomors not only for a visit. They are the participants of the co-educational project of Hadsel High School which is situated in the town Stokmarknes and Arkhangelsk School #21. The project is being realized with the support of the Barents Secretariat.

International relations were maintained more than three years ago and since that time students from both countries visit each other every year. And it is not accidental: in 9th form Russian students start learning Norwegian as a foreign language while their exchange friends study Russian.

Sara Hansson, who is a Norwegian and Russian teacher and the head of the group of the students, has a special connection with our city. She studied the language of Pushkin in St. Petersburg and her practice took place in Arkhangelsk. Now she and her students are the permanent guests of the Pomor capital.

"I think Russia is a very beautiful country with an incredibly interesting culture. I've always wanted my pupils to learn Russian not only at the desk at school but also to learn the culture of your country and to make friendly relationships with Russian people", she says.

The students lived in their Arkhangelsk peers' families for five days. They communicated generally in English because both Russian and Norwegian students can speak it fluently. Such language practice is also very important.

The Russian parents from the host families confess: "We've never heard our children speaking English. And when they welcome the guests, we watch our children easily communicating, not only getting good marks at school."



"These are the people who can go anywhere in the world and they will not be lost, will not be confused, they will feel safe in any country", notes Olga Pravilova, the Deputy Head of School # 21.

The friends from neighbouring countries can't still communicate in Russian or Norwegian freely. So they try to practise their second foreign language. Arina Meshkova has been learning Norwegian for three years, the Scandinavian friend has visited her family twice and the girl came to them with a return visit. She says: "Our new friends are very

happy when they hear Arkhangelsk students speaking Norwegian."

In general, during the stay of the Norwegians in Arkhangelsk, the teenagers were able to get really close. Together they managed to visit Malye Korely, Plotnikova's Manor House and the Gostinye Dvory, look into the backstage of the Drama Theatre, visit the geological Museum of NArFU. They went to cafes and rock concerts, skated, and even learned to paint gingerbread cookies and make pelmenis.

Students from the school №21 are going to visit Norway in April, continue to get acquainted with the culture of the country and communicate with the friends of the educational project.

"This exchange has already existed for three years and more and more students choose to study Norwegian at our school and Russian at the Norwegian one. The result is obvious, because children are motivated when they see the opportunity to visit a country, to live in a family, to get acquainted with the culture, to make new friends," emphasizes Olga Pravilova.

— written by Nataliya Zacharova,
translated by Daniil Galenchik, 10B form



The UK has become closer

In February 21 students from our school returned from a trip to the UK, where we studied at the East-West Bridge Centre. The week was very busy and interesting.

We saw a lot in the capital of Great Britain-London: the Tower of London, Buckingham Palace, Trafalgar Square, the City with its skyscrapers, Covent Garden, Big Ben, which is now under restoration. We walked along the famous bridges of London-Tower bridge and Millennium bridge, took a ride on the largest overview wheel in Europe-London Eye, looked at the wax figures of celebrities in the Madame Tussauds Museum. What is more, we visited Oxford and walked along the narrow streets of this ancient University City. We were very lucky to visit the residence of Queen Elizabeth II – Windsor Palace and to enjoy its beauty.

English lessons with native speakers and singing in the evenings were exciting – we learned our favorite songs in English. The final day ended up with summarizing – we all shared our feelings and emotions and our student of the 10th grade Dmitry Khviyuzov expressed his thoughts in verse form.

We are grateful to the staff of the Centre for warm welcome and hospitality! We'll keep in our hearts the memories of this wonderful week with wonderful people for a long time and hope to come back!

Students – participants of the trip shared their impressions of the trip.

Milena Chegorka, student of 9B grade
I was greatly impressed by all sights we visited but in my opinion, the most exciting place was the Tower of London. It impressed me by its history, huge size and greatness.



At my English classes I improved my speaking skills and brushed up my grammar. Thanks to the native teachers, I revised Tenses, Conditionals and learned a lot of idioms as well. Besides, I improved my writing skills as we wrote essays on different topics every day.

I consider the most effective evening activities were ones when our group greeted each other by playing game called "Snowball" and when we learnt such songs as "Believer" and "The Greatest Showman". I can safely recommend my classmates and friends to visit the Centre as it helped me to improve my knowledge about the history, the culture and the people of the UK. I was really excited by that wonderful country and I will definitely come here again.

Olga Moiseenko, student of 8A grade
Most of all I enjoyed our English classes. I developed my speaking skills while

talking to our teachers who were native speakers and to my classmates. I really enjoyed communicating with teachers and other people in the classroom because through this I learned a lot about English culture and met new interesting people. I participated in all after class activities because all of them were pretty interesting and unusual for me so I wanted to try.

Lera Aksenovskaya, student of 8A grade
Great Britain is rich in sightseeing. I was greatly impressed by our trip to Oxford and to Windsor Castle. In Oxford we learnt a lot of historical facts about this University town and its ancient buildings. So, Windsor Castle surprised me with the wealth of the Royal family. Also, in London we saw a lot of interesting and well-known places. England can amaze not only by its historical monuments but modern architecture and cheerful people too.

Thanks to my trip to Great Britain I learnt a lot about the culture of this wonderful country and I improved my skills in English. Also it was a very funny trip and I could overcome my language barrier. I recommend very much to visit East West Bridge Center. It's not only the educational center with brilliant teachers but it also gives you opportunity to feel the country, its history and culture. As for the house where we lived there was a real family atmosphere and nice hospitable people. Our evenings were really fantastic – we did so many cool activities that helped us to become friends.

— by Olga Pravilova



Sister Cities

Sister Cities on the International Space Station

Expedition 63 to the International Space Station (ISS) was launched from Baikonur, Russia on April 9, 2020. They will be on orbit for several months.

The crew consists of 3 astronauts. They are: Christopher Cassidy from York, Maine
Ivan Vagner from Severoonezhsk in the Arkhangelsk Oblast
Anatoly Ivanishin from Irkutsk, Russia

Because Chris is from Maine and Ivan is from a village not far from the City of Arkhangelsk, we decided to send

joint Sister City Greetings to them, from the Committee in Greater Portland and from Arkhangelsk Mayor Igor Godzish.

The Greetings were up-linked to the ISS on 15 June 2020 and the crew printed them out and took the attached photographs.

— by Neale Duffett

Greetings from Sister Cities

To the Crew of ISS Expedition 63:
Roscosmos cosmonauts Ivan Vagner, Anatoly Ivanishin,
NASA astronaut Christopher Cassidy

Dear ISS Expedition 63 crew members!

On behalf of the people of Arkhangelsk and Greater Portland we send warmest greetings to you as you work together for the good of everyone on Earth!

Arkhangelsk Russia and Greater Portland Maine USA have been official Sister Cities since 1988. Over the years, our relationship has grown to involve many places throughout the Arkhangelsk Oblast and the State of Maine, and we are honored to have Ivan Vagner from the Arkhangelsk Oblast and Christopher Cassidy from the State of Maine together on orbit in the ISS.

We also recognize the contribution of Flight Engineer Anatoly Ivanishin from Irkutsk Russia to ISS operations.

Expedition 63 continues to perform the vital mission aboard the International Space Station, which is the largest international project, developed by space agencies from different countries. Your joint work inspires us to strengthen our friendship to promote peace and improve understanding.

We wish you successful completion of the Expedition activities! On your return to Earth we extend the invitation to you all to visit our cities for the popularization of aerospace achievements and Russian American cooperation.

— Igor Godzish,

Head of Arkhangelsk City Municipality

— Neale Duffett,

Co-Chair of the Archangel Committee at Greater Portland

— Carol Lord,

Co-Chair of the Archangel Committee at Greater Portland

A letter from James Mardin

To: Arkhangelsk Veterans of the Greater Patriotic War
Victory Day

9 May 1945 - 9 May 2020

My name is James Mardin and I was born on 23 January 1922 and I live in the City of Portland Maine in the United States of America.

I joined the United States Army in 1940 and I was assigned to the Army Forces protecting Portland Harbor and the Liberty Ship Construction Yards from German submarine attack. We had long range 12 inch (305 mm) guns located on the mainland and on islands.

Later, in 1943 I was assigned to the 460th Anti-Aircraft Artillery Battalion and we crossed the Atlantic Ocean to England in late 1943. On 12 June 1944, my unit landed on the beaches of Normandy France and we advanced to the East against Nazi forces. My unit had 500 men and thirty 40 mm Bofors guns for use against Nazi fighter planes (my unit was credited with the 1000th Nazi fighter plane shot down by all Allied Forces on the Western Front).

We advanced Eastward through France and Belgium where we fought in the Battle of the Bulge. After that, we advanced into Germany and crossed the Rhine River, eventually turning South and we occupied the City of Mies in western Czechoslovakia. Russian forces advanced from the East in Czechoslovakia and met with our American forces near the City of Pilsen.

I send warm greeting to all my fellow veterans of the Great Patriotic War and I send my best wishes to the families of all who died in defending against Nazi aggression.

— James Mardin, Sergeant. United States Army

Dated: 14 March 2020

Fairies' world is amazing and fascinating!

"Just living is not enough" said the butterfly fairy," one must have sunshine, freedom and a little flower."

— Hans Christian Andersen

While reading fairy poems I have discovered not just these cute creatures but, also, the artists who warm our hearts with terrific illustrations of fairy stories. I can't help mentioning Cicely Mary Baker and Marjorie Peters whose pictures impress the readers with fantastic beauty and you can easily feel yourself somewhere in the forest among these fabulous and fragile fairies and elves. Enjoy a bit of fairy land stories in rhyme and my translations.

— Svetlana Mozgovaya

A Fairy Went A-Marketing

A fairy went a marketing-
She bought a little fish;
She put it in a crystal bowl
Upon a golden dish.
An hour she sat in wonderment
And watched its silver gleam,
And then she gently took it up
And slipped it in a stream.

— written by Rose Fyleman

Как Фея Сходила На Базар

Подружка фея вернулась с базара,
В руке она хрупкую рыбку держала.
В хрустальную вазу воды налила
И милая рыбка тотчас поплыла.
В раздумье над рыбкой час провела,
А рыбка сияла как блеск серебра...
Фея достала рыбку скорей
И отпустила в ближайший ручей.

— translated by Svetlana Mozgovaya

Congratulations to the winner of poetic interpretation contest! Every year our students take part in annual contest of poetic interpretations from foreign languages. This year George Guriev won the first prize. Enjoy his amazing work!

— Olga Pravilova

Be A Friend

Be a friend. You don't need money;
Just a disposition sunny;
Just the wish to help another
Get along some way or other;
Just a kindly hand extended
Out to one who's unbefriended;
Just the will to give or lend,
This will make you someone's friend.
Be a friend. You don't need glory.
Friendship is a simple story.
Pass by trifling errors blindly,
Gaze on honest effort kindly,
Cheer the youth who's bravely trying,
Pity him who's sadly sighing;
Just a little labor spend
On the duties of a friend.
Be a friend. The pay is bigger
(Though not written by a figure)
Than is earned by people clever
In what's merely self-endeavor.
You'll have friends instead of neighbors
For the profits of your labors;
You'll be richer in the end
Than a prince, if you're a friend.

— written by Edgar A. Guest

Для дружбы

Для дружбы не важна монета,
Лишь нравы солнечного света.
Желание помочь другому:
Поступком, делом, силой, словом.
Рука, протянутая вдаль
Для тех, кто дружбы не познал.
Желание дать и одолжить —
Помогут другу вас любить.
Для дружбы слава не нужна.
История о ней важна.
Простая, с множеством ошибок,
Усилий, сотнями улыбок.
Приветствуй тех, кто в дружбу смело.
Жалей того, кто лгал умело.
Лишь капельку потратить труда,
Чтоб твоя дружба расцвела.
Для дружбы в общем то оплаты нет
(И цифры не увидят свет)
Друзья ценнее, всех отрад.
Дороже умственных наград.
Пусть будет друг, а не сосед.
Не знайте за поступки бед.
Богатым будьте без вещей.
Богаче принца без друзей!

— translated by Georgiy Guriev, 11 form