

ONLINE EXCHANGE

BRESCIA & BRUSY



Istituto Tecnico Tecnologico Baracca

Kaszubskie Liceum Ogólnokształcące
w Brusach

Elisa Lacagnina

Thanks to the Etwinning platform I had the possibility to know Ms. Alicja Frymark, English teacher from Kashubian Secondary School (Kaszubskie Liceum Ogólnokształcące) in Brusy, Poland.

Since our first online meeting on Skype, we have kept talking, most of all, of our school project called “Online exchange - Brescia & Brusy”.

To start, we decided to assign our students a partner to make them work in pairs. Their task was to exchange emails with their friend about the topic given and then, with the information, to write a short article in English.

We assigned different topics like Covid 19 and lockdown; traditional food; language uses; interesting facts about the city, the country and the region; school; local tradition. The first part of the project went really well and I was satisfied with the work done.

My 5th-year students are enthusiastic about having a “virtual” foreign partner. I decided to start an online exchange because my students felt the need to improve their English speaking and writing skills, as we have only 3 hour English a week.

According to me, these opportunities are not only useful to improve the language skills but also to expand your knowledge, to meet new people, to know about the uses and the customs of different countries. Moreover, it was the right moment to start a project of this kind precisely in this difficult period. We have been experiencing a different life, due to Covid 19: home-schooling, restrictions, curfews, prohibitions etc. and we all feel the need to return to normal life: to travel, to know new things, to have contact with people from all over the world. And the virtual world seems to be, for now, the only way we have to feel closer to others.

To conclude, I want to thank Alicja a lot for her great collaboration. I found a brilliant online partner and we are successfully working. We got on immediately and we are on the same page about things.

And if I may say: not only my students, but even me, I have found a virtual Polish friend, too.

Alicja Frymark

As it is commonly known, travelling has been difficult due to Covid-19 and the worldwide pandemic. Yet, we should not forget how important it is to communicate, educate and broaden our horizons. In order to make learning English easier and fun our school had decided to look for partners with whom we can collaborate, at least online.

I am lucky to teach students who are passionate and willing to learn new things. It has also been a pleasure to collaborate with Ms. Elisa Lacagnina, English teacher in Istitutio Tecnico Technologico Baracca in Brescia. Together with Ms. Lacagnina, we asked our students to write some short articles about the things that they learnt while communicating with their Italian and Polish friends. Learning new things does not need to be boring, it does not need to be based on textbooks only. Learning things should be fun. If we do things we are passionate about, then we are motivated to achieve the next goals.

We hope that this experience helped our students broaden their knowledge and improve their communication skills. I would also like to thank Elisa for the ideas and collaboration. We hope that it is not the end of our teamwork. We are happy to present a collection of articles written by our students.



Interesting Facts About Italy

Emilia Kiedrowicz

Italy – a country with legacy running back to the dawn of western civilisation, with cultural influences we still see around the world through food, cinema and culture. It is a nation worthy of admiration.

Italians are traditional but not closed-minded, and are known for communicating with hand gestures and facial expressions, as well as being late, as they enjoy life leisurely. "Ars longa, vita brevis" is a common saying which means "art is long, life is short", which reflects their view on life well. Sports are of great interest – soccer, skiing, cycling, surfing and motor racing are just a few examples.

Italian influences are vast; many musical terms (early composers from the Renaissance era were Italian), art (Dante, Da Vinci, Michelangelo), science (Galileo Galilei, Alessandro Volta), popular fashion brands (Armani, Versace, Prada), the famous children's story "Pinocchio", the first espresso machine, the first piano, the violin, the guitar, the organ... and that's only the tip of the iceberg of the many achievements, past and current.

Some other facts I particularly liked: Italy is home to the oldest university in Europe – the University of Bologna, founded in 1088. The commonly seen on the busy streets motor scooter is called vespa. All three of Europe's active volcanoes are located there - Vesuvius, Etna and Stromboli, and over 75% of the country is covered in mountains and hills. It's also where thirteen of Shakespeare's plays are set (like "Romeo and Juliet" in the city of Verona).

One of my personal favourites is the abandoned island of Poveglia which is said to be so haunted that public access is prohibited. Another one would be tiramisu – proposed as a dessert that would stimulate customers thanks to its high energetic content of eggs and sugar, and caffeine of the strong espresso, it's got a fitting name which means "pick-me-up" in English.



Poland

Matteo Zacchetti

Poland, officially the Republic of Poland, is a country located in Central Europe. It is divided into 16 administrative provinces, covering an area of 312,696 square kilometers, and has a largely temperate seasonal climate. With a population of nearly 38.5 million people, Poland is the fifth most populous member state of the European Union. Poland's capital and largest metropolis is Warsaw. Other major cities include Kraków, Łódz, Wrocław, Poznań, Gdańsk, and Szczecin.

Poland's topographically diverse territory extends from the beaches along the Baltic Sea in the north to the Sudetes and Carpathian Mountains in its south. The country is bordered by Lithuania and Russia's Kaliningrad Oblast to the northeast, Belarus and Ukraine to the east, Slovakia and the Czech Republic to the south, and Germany to the west.

The history of human activity on Polish soil spans thousands of years. Throughout the late antiquity period it became extensively diverse, with various cultures and tribes settling on the vast Central European Plain. However, it was the Western Poland which dominated the region and gave Poland its name. The establishment of Polish statehood can be traced to 966, when the pagan ruler of a realm coextensive with the territory of present-day Poland embraced Christianity and converted to Catholicism.

Volleyball and Association football are among the country's most popular sports, with a rich history of international competitions, track and field, basketball, handball, boxing, MMA, motorcycle speedway, ski jumping, cross-country skiing, ice hockey, tennis, fencing, swimming and weightlifting are other popular sports. Notable Polish sportspeople include Zbigniew Boniek, Irena Szewińska, Agnieszka Radwańska, Justyna Kowalczyk, Robert Lewandowski, Kamil Stoch, Anita Włodarczyk and Iga Świątek.



Lombardy

Weronika Gussmann

Lombardy is one of the twenty administrative regions of Italy.

Area: 23,844 square kilometres (9,206 sq mi).

- Lombardy is the fourth-largest region of Italy.

- Located in northern Italy, between the mountain range of the Alps and the flow of the Po river

- It is bordered by Switzerland (north: Canton Ticino and Canton Graubünden) and by the Italian regions of Trentino-Alto Adige/Südtirol and Veneto (east), Emilia-Romagna (south), and Piedmont (west).

- Three distinct natural zones can be easily distinguished in Lombardy: mountains, hills, and plains—the last being divided into Alta (high plains) and Bassa (low plains).

- Besides mountains and the Padana Plain, the region is also graced by beautiful lakes, like Lake Garda, Lake Maggiore and Lake Como.

- Lombardy is divided into 11 provinces, 1 metropolitan area (Milan) and 1523 municipalities.

Milan is the capital of Lombardy. It is a dynamic and competitive reality that, thanks to its geographic position and the resourcefulness of its inhabitants, is a privileged actor in the international market.

Population: About 10 million people live in Lombardy.

Forming more than one-sixth of Italy's population, and more than a fifth of Italy's GDP is produced in the region, making it the most populous, richest and most productive region in the country.

For population, it is the first most populated region in Italy and 3rd most populated region in Europe after Île-de-France and Baden-Württemberg.



Flag: The flag of Lombardy is one of the official symbols of the region of Lombardy, Italy.

- The current flag was officially adopted on 4 February 2019 although it was de facto used since 12 June 1975.

- The flag is green, representing the Po Valley, with the Rosa Camuna (a symbol of the region derived from a prehistoric drawing made by the ancient Camuni) in white in the centre, representing the light.

Food: Italy is very famous for their unusual kitchen and great list of dishes

- Rice is popular in the Lombardia, often found in soup as well as risotti, such as "risotto alla milanese", with saffron.

- In the city of Monza, a popular recipe also adds pieces of sausages to the risotto. Polenta is also common throughout the region.

- Regional cheeses include Robiola, Crescenza, Taleggio, Gorgonzola and Grana Padano (the plains of central and southern Lombardy allow intensive cattle-raising). Butter and cream are used.

Sport: The most famous sport in Lombardy, as in all Italy, is football.

- In fact, Lombardy is home to some of the most important football teams in the country. Considering the 2020-21 Serie A season, Lombardy hosts 3 out of 20 teams: A.C. Milan and Inter Milan (both based in Milan) and Atalanta B.C. (based in Bergamo). Other big teams of the region are Brescia Calcio, A.C. Monza and U.S. Cremonese.

- In the Lombardy Region there are more than 10,000 sports clubs and associations which organise a lot of sports activities.

- The Dote Sport initiative is a contribution by the Lombardy Region to encourage families in disadvantaged economic conditions to bring their children closer to sport.



- Single pot dishes, which take less work to prepare, are popular. Common types of pasta include Casoncelli in Brescia and Bergamo and Pizzoccheri in Valtellina.

- In Mantua, festivals feature tortelli di zucca (ravioli with pumpkin filling) accompanied by melted butter and followed by turkey stuffed with chicken or other stewed meats.

- Among typical regional desserts is Nocciolini di Canzo – dry biscuits.

- There are three main wine regions in Lombardy: Franciacorta (close to Brescia), the area of Lake Garda and the Oltrepo Pavese. These three areas, plus Valtellina, cover almost the entire Lombard wine production.

Fashion: Lombardy has always been an important centre for silk and textile production.

- Notably the cities of Pavia, Vigevano and Cremona, but Milan is the region's most important centre for clothing and high fashion.

- In 2009, Milan was regarded as the world fashion capital, even surpassing New York, Paris and London.

- Most of the major Italian fashion brands, such as Valentino, Versace, Prada, Armani and Dolce & Gabbana, are currently headquartered in the city.



FACTS:

There are nine UNESCO World Heritage sites wholly or partially located in Lombardy. Some of these comprise several individual objects in different locations. One of the entries has been listed as natural heritage and the others are cultural heritage sites. For example:

- The Rock Drawings in Valcamonica date back to a period between 8000 BC and 1000 BC, covering prehistoric periods from the Epipaleolithic/Mesolithic to the Iron Age. The engravings show depictions of a wide range of topics including agricultural and war scenes alongside more abstract symbols.
- Longobards in Italy, Places of Power (568–774 A.D.), comprises seven locations across mainland Italy which illustrate the history of the Lombard period which has given the region its name.
- The Church and Dominican Convent of Santa Maria delle Grazie in Milan with "The Last Supper" by Leonardo da Vinci represent architectural and painting styles of the Renaissance period of the 15th century. The towns of Mantua and Sabbioneta are also listed as a combined World Heritage site relating to this period, here focussing more on town planning aspects of the time than on architectural detail. While Mantua was rebuilt in the 15th and 16th centuries according to Renaissance principles, Sabbioneta was planned as a new town in the 16th century. The region is also famous for its historical figures such as Virgil, Pliny the Elder, Ambrose, Caravaggio, Claudio Monteverdi, Antonio Stradivari, Cesare Beccaria, Alessandro Volta, Alessandro Manzoni, and popes John XXIII and Paul VI.

In Lombardy there are numerous museums (over 330) of different types (e.g. ethnographic, historical, technical-scientific, artistic and naturalistic) which testify to the historical-cultural and artistic development of the region. Among the most famous ones are the National Museum of Science and Technology "Leonardo da Vinci".

Pomeranian Voivodeship

Simone Cocolli

OVERVIEW

Pomeranian Voivodeship is a voivodeship, or province, in northwestern Poland. The provincial capital is Gdańsk.

The name Pomerania derives from the Slavic "po more", meaning "by the sea" or "on the sea".

The population consists of over 2,3 million of inhabitants.

The voivodeship was established on January 1, 1999, out of the former voivodeships of Gdańsk, Elbląg and Słupsk, pursuant to the Polish local government reforms adopted in 1997. It is bordered by West Pomeranian Voivodeship to the west, Greater Poland and Kuyavian-Pomeranian Voivodeships to the south, Warmian-Masurian Voivodeship to the east, and the Baltic Sea to the north. It also shares a short land border with Russia (Kaliningrad Oblast), on the Vistula Spit.

The voivodeship comprises most of Pomerelia (the easternmost part of historical Pomerania), as well as an area east of the Vistula River. The western part of the province, around Słupsk, belonged historically to Farther Pomerania, while Pomerelia and the eastern bank of the Vistula belonged to the historical region of Prussia. The central parts of the province are also known as Kashubia, named after the Kashubian minority.

Pomeranian Voivodeship is divided into 20 counties (poviats): 4 city counties, and 16 land counties. These are further divided into 123 gminas (communes).

The voivodeship contains more than 42 cities and towns.

CULTURAL HERITAGE

The province is rich with cultural heritage. The urban area consists of Gdańsk, Gdynia and Sopot. Gdańsk and Gdynia are two of the major Polish seaports. Amongst the most famous landmarks of the region are the historic city centre of Gdańsk filled with Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque masterpieces, the largest medieval churches of Poland (the St. Mary's Church in Gdańsk and the Cathedral Basilica of the Assumption in Pelplin) and the Malbork Castle. It is also worth seeing the narrow Hel Peninsula and the Polish half of the Vistula Spit. Other tourist destinations include Wejherowo, Sopot, Jurata, Łeba, Władysławowo, Puck, Krynica Morska, Ustka, Jastarnia, Kuźnica, Bytów and many fishing ports, lighthouses, and boats.

ETHNIC MINORITY: KASHUBIANS

The Kashubians also known as Cassubians or Kashubs, are a Lechitic (West Slavic) ethnic group native to the historical region of Eastern Pomerania called Pomerelia, in north-central Poland. The area is called Kashubia (Kaszuby). They speak Kashubian language, which is classified as a separate language closely related to Polish.

The Kashubs are grouped with the Slovincians as Pomeranians. The Slovincian (now extinct) and Kashubian languages are grouped as Pomeranian languages, with Slovincian (also known as Łeba Kashubian)

USEFUL ITALIAN PHRASES

Agata Butowska

As a student of the Kashubian Secondary School in Brusy, I had the opportunity to participate in an online exchange in English called „Online exchange - Brescia & Brusy”. Together with a student from Institutio Tecnico Technologio Baracca from Brescia in Italy, I exchanged information about common phrases that are used in our countries.

Federico Inselvini is my project partner. He is my age, also 17. I had a good time working with him. Federico loves adventures, travels and adrenaline. He enjoys riding a motorcycle on the shores of Lake Iseo or in the mountains. He is into kickboxing, judo, swimming and horse riding. He studied and studied last spring to get his military paratrooper license. On September 13, he jumped off the plane. He is training because he wants to join the Italian special forces in the future. Now, because of the pandemic, he cannot continue to develop his passion.

Federico introduced me to some phrases that are used in Italy.



Phrases that you can use at the airport:

Where is the check-in desk for the flight to 345?

Dov'è il check-in per il volo per 345?

Which gate is the flight to 345 leaving from?

Da quale porta d'imbarco parte il volo per 345?

What time will I be boarding?

A che ora è il mio imbarco?

Is the plane delayed?

Il volo è in ritardo?

My flight has been cancelled. What can I do?

Il mio volo è stato cancellato. Cosa posso fare?

However, being in an Italian hotel (in italian albergo), can use the following phrases:

Do you have any rooms available?

Avete stanze disponibili?

Do you have a quiet room?

È disponibile una stanza silenziosa?

Is breakfast included?

La colazione è inclusa?

Can you wake me at 8 o'clock?

Mi può svegliare alle 8?

I want to check out.

Vorrei fare il check out.

It is also very useful to know the phrases that can be used in an Italian restaurant (in italian "ristorante"). Examples of such phrases were given to me by Federico, and they are:

A table for two, please.

Un tavolo per due persone, grazie.

Can I look at the menu, please?

È possibile vedere il menu, grazie?

Is there a local speciality?

Qual è la specialità della casa?

May I have a glass of water?

Posso avere un bicchiere d'acqua?

The check, please.

Il conto, per favore.

Shops are the places that we visit often. Being in the Italian store, we will easily reach the seller with the help of these phrases:

How much is that/How much is it?

Quanto costa?

Can I pay by credit card?

È possibile pagare con la carta di credito?

I am just looking, thanks.

Do solo un'occhiata.

Can I try it on, please?

Posso provarlo?

Have you got this t-shirt in a different size?

Ha questa maglietta in un'altra taglia?



In case of emergency:

Could you speak slower?

Potrebbe parlare più lentamente?

Could you please repeat that?

Potrebbe ripetere, per favore?

I would like to report a theft.

Vorrei denunciare un furto.

Where is the nearest hospital?

Dov'è l'ospedale più vicino?

Where is the police station?

Dov'è la stazione della polizia?

By studying the examples of Italian phrases that Federico told me, we can learn at least a few useful Italian phrases. I believe that my friend's mother tongue is very beautiful and I will be happy to read other expressions, and maybe even remember some of them.



Polish for Travellers

Federico Inselvini

If you go to Warsaw, Krakow, Łódź, Wrocław, Poznań or Gdańsk you will need to speak the local language, at least the most important phrases.

Below, you can find some useful phrases:

Dzień dobry – good morning or good afternoon

Dobry wieczór – good evening

Dobranoc – good night

Cześć – hi

Do widzenia – good bye

Proszę – please / here you are

Dziękuję – thank you

Dzięki – thanks

Przepraszam – I'm sorry / excuse me

Tak – yes

Nie – no / not

Nie wiem – I don't know

Nie zwracaj mi głowy, nie widzisz, że jestem zajęty/zajęta? – don't disturb me, don't you see I'm busy ?

Jak się masz? – how are you?

Jak leci? – what's up?

Miłego dnia – have a nice day

Co/Jak tam u ciebie? – how is it going?

Nie mówię po polsku. – I don't speak Polish

Nie rozumiem – I don't understand



Na zdrowie! – Cheers!

Ile to kosztuje ?- how much does it cost ?

Która godzina ?- what time is it ?

Gdzie mieszkasz ?- Where do you live ?

Jak dojść do ... ?- How to reach ... ?

Gdzie znajdę ?- Where can I find ?

O której zaczynasz pracę?- What time do you start work?

Dziękuję za zaproszenie – Thank you for the invitation

Pomóż mi !- Help me !

Gdzie jedziesz na Święta ?- Where are you going for Christmas?

O której odjeżdża autobus ?- What time does the bus leave ?

Kupiłaś już prezenty ?- Have you already bought gifts?

I hope you will find these phrases useful.



Food in Italy

Magdalena Wera



In Italy there are many typical meals and there are differences in north and south regions, but I focused on the north region where my Italian friend lives - Lombardy. The most popular and known meals in Lombardy are Milanese risotto, pizzoccheri, polenta, Milanese cutlet and dessert - panettone. When it comes to breakfast, Italian people usually start the day with a cup of coffee and some biscuits or a croissant.

I described some of the basic meals. Risotto alla milanese is a risotto which main ingredients, in addition to those needed to prepare a white risotto, are saffron, from which its characteristic yellow color derives, and cooked with a technique called "all'onda" you should not let it burn while cooking and it is accompanied with grated cheese on top. It is a typical dish of northern Italy as well as polenta.

Polenta is an ancient and very simple dish, it is made with a few ingredients such as corn flour, water, oil and salt. It is served to accompany certain types of meat or certain types of dishes such as trifolati mushrooms or meat stews.

In addition, the polenta is cooked in a type of copper pan and in the space of an hour it must be stirred several times to prevent it from sticking to the bottom. usually it is not accompanied with any additional ingredients but is served as it is.

I guess food in Italy seems to be very delicious and it's worth trying!



Food in Poland

Davide Facchetti

In Poland, as in every part of the world, there are some typical dishes. While talking to a local girl I was able to learn about the typical foods of the place. For example, they usually eat bread with cheese for breakfast. When it comes to lunch or dinner there are: pierogi, gołąbki, bigos, schabowe with potatoes, zrazy, żurek soup, or mushroom soup.

For desserts they may have mazurek cake, cheesecake and lots more. One of those called pierogi which are filled dumplings made by wrapping unleavened dough around a savory or sweet filling and cooking in boiling water. They are often then pan-fried before serving.

For me their typical dishes are very different from ours, but that does not mean they are not good.



Covid-19 and Lockdown in Italy

Agata Kulesza

Italy is one of the countries with the highest number of COVID-19 cases. My friend Ashenafi from Italy told me about the pandemic and lockdown situation. The Coronavirus broke out in Italy when two cases of infection were reported on January 30, 2020. The subsequent cases spread very quickly. The first restrictions introduced by the government were cancelled flights to China. On January 31, the government introduced a state of emergency. Therefore, many cities have been quarantined. There was a ban on leaving the closed area, banning collective events in addition to religious ceremonies, including funerals and weddings.

Sports competitions were allowed on the condition that they were held without the audience. Restrictions were also introduced in restaurants - they could be open until 6 pm. All gyms, shopping malls, cinemas, theaters, clubs were closed for long months. Ashenafi missed gyms the most. He has been training karate since his childhood and trains 6 times a week. As he admits, doing online exercises is not the same. Schools closed on March 5. Ashenafi during the lockdown studied a lot and improved his knowledge. He missed his classmates and teachers very much. He admitted that he definitely prefers school lessons. During the summer holiday, the virus calmed down. Some of the restrictions have been lifted. There were bans on flights to the United States, for example. The second wave of Covid-19 was stronger. According to Ashenafi, because of the government that was not prepared in the best way.

The first wave was received as a message while the second was really harder to respond to. Again, many places have been closed, including schools. They are said to open on January 7th. Since the first wave they have had 60 thousand plus deaths and more 1.7 million cases. At the moment of writing this article (December 2020) there are nearly 750 thousand are in intensive care.



How COVID-19 has Struck Polish Teens

Ashenafi Delle Curti

2020 was a year to remember for the standards of well-being we have. A lot things has happened: the assassination of General Soleimani, the rectification of Great Britain's exit from the European Union, the fires in Australia and last but not least the coronavirus pandemic. For us, as Europeans citizens accustomed to a comfortable life, almost placid, with the sole purpose of life, economic well-being, a year like this has almost "cut our legs". It has demonstrated, again, the differences between individuals and the collectivity and highlighted, again, the hypocrisy of "I accept everything as long as you think like me". Thanks to our institute, the teaching staff and mostly our teacher Elisa Lacagnina, we had the opportunity to undertake a project with Brusy school (Poland), which could help us to understand how other states have tried to fight the pandemic and favor certain sectors over others.

I had the opportunity to talk with Agata Kulesza who explained to me her experience with COVID-19 pandemic and her feelings with this new situation. The first signs were found on 19th February, when twelve people remained hospitalised "in connection with the Coronavirus", however the first lab-confirmed case of SARS-CoV-2 in Poland was announced just on 4th March.

Initially, the government was against severe restrictions. In fact, on 4th March the parliament voted against restrictions, however it seems that on 10th March they cancelled mass events and on 12nd March they suspended all kinds of events and started the school closure. While recognizing the importance of lockdown measures in safeguarding lives, young people, like Agata, have also reported having seen a deep impact on their freedom of movement and their life. In fact, like every kind of social and movement restriction has created social problems like: stress, sleep and mood disorder, anxiety attacks and fear of being isolated.

Initially, Polish students (Italians too) underestimated this type of problem, in fact the possibility of doing distance learning was received with good intentions. However, after weeks of experimenting with full e-learning method, the potential was understood, but above all the lack. In the end, it is true that "you do not understand the importance of something until you lose it". In this case what has been "partially" lost is human contact, with schoolmates and teachers.

Fortunately not everything was precluded, in fact it was still possible to meet friends and go shopping, as long as you wore the mask in public places and respected social distancing.

Agata and her peers were happy about this approach, because according to her helped seniors (in fact the number of cases as a percentage is better than Italian one) and safeguarded teens in order to remain mental healthy, happy and continue to develop their skills and their social life.



Education in Italy

Marta Czarnowska

A friend I had the pleasure of chatting to is called Shashik. Shashik goes to school "ITT FRANCESCO BARACCA" based in Brescia, San Polo. For two years the students of this school have had general subjects such as :

- Italian language and literature;
- Foreign language and culture;
- History;
- Mathematics;
- Information technology;
- Applied sciences and technologies;
- Physics;
- Chemistry;
- Biology and Earth Sciences;
- General and economic geography;
- Technologies and techniques;
- Graphics;
- Law and economics;
- Exercises and sports studies;
- Catholic Religion or alternative activities;



For the next three years, students have a choice of three courses of study:

- 1) vehicle management course;
- 2) vehicle construction course;
- 3) mechanics and mechatronics course;

For these different courses they obviously have different subjects. Shashik has chosen a construction course and in this case he has subjects like this:

- Italian language and literature;
- Foreign language and culture;
- History;
- Mathematics;
- Complements to mathematics;
- Law and economics;
- Electrical Engineering, Electronics and Automation;
- Structural systems and vehicle equipment;
- Mechanics, machines and drive systems;
- Logistics;
- Physical education and sport;
- Catholic religion or alternative activities.

Shashik also has courses; he himself has chosen to manage the types, functions, and functioning of various means and systems of transportation;

In this course he will learn to manage the interaction between the environment and transportation activities, working together to protect the environment and use energy rationally;

Education in Poland

Shashika Perera

The full name of the school is the Kashubian Secondary School in Brusy. In Poland, all students start the school year on September 1st and finish at the end of June. The first year looks like they have general subjects so they have classes like: Maths, Physics, Chemistry, Geography, Biology, IT, PE, Education for Safety, The Basics of Entrepreneurship, Knowledge about Culture, Knowledge of Society, History, Religious Education / Ethics, Polish language, Kashubian language, English, German and there are also activities which are not assessed, for example, education for family life. In the second grade, they are divided into the profiles that they chose in the second grade, e.g. My friend chose the mat-geo-ang profile, i.e. extended math, geography and English. And a few items are missing, so she has subjects like: Religious Education, Polish language, English, German, Kashubian language, History and Society, PE, Maths, Geography, History and Culture of Kashubians. In the third grade, they have the same subjects as in the second grade. During their last year they write the final exam in Poland, it is called MATURA. If they pass their exams with good results, they will be able to study at their dream universities. After secondary school, most people go to university or post-secondary school. The KLO school is a unique school because there are not many secondary schools in Poland where you can learn Kashubian language.



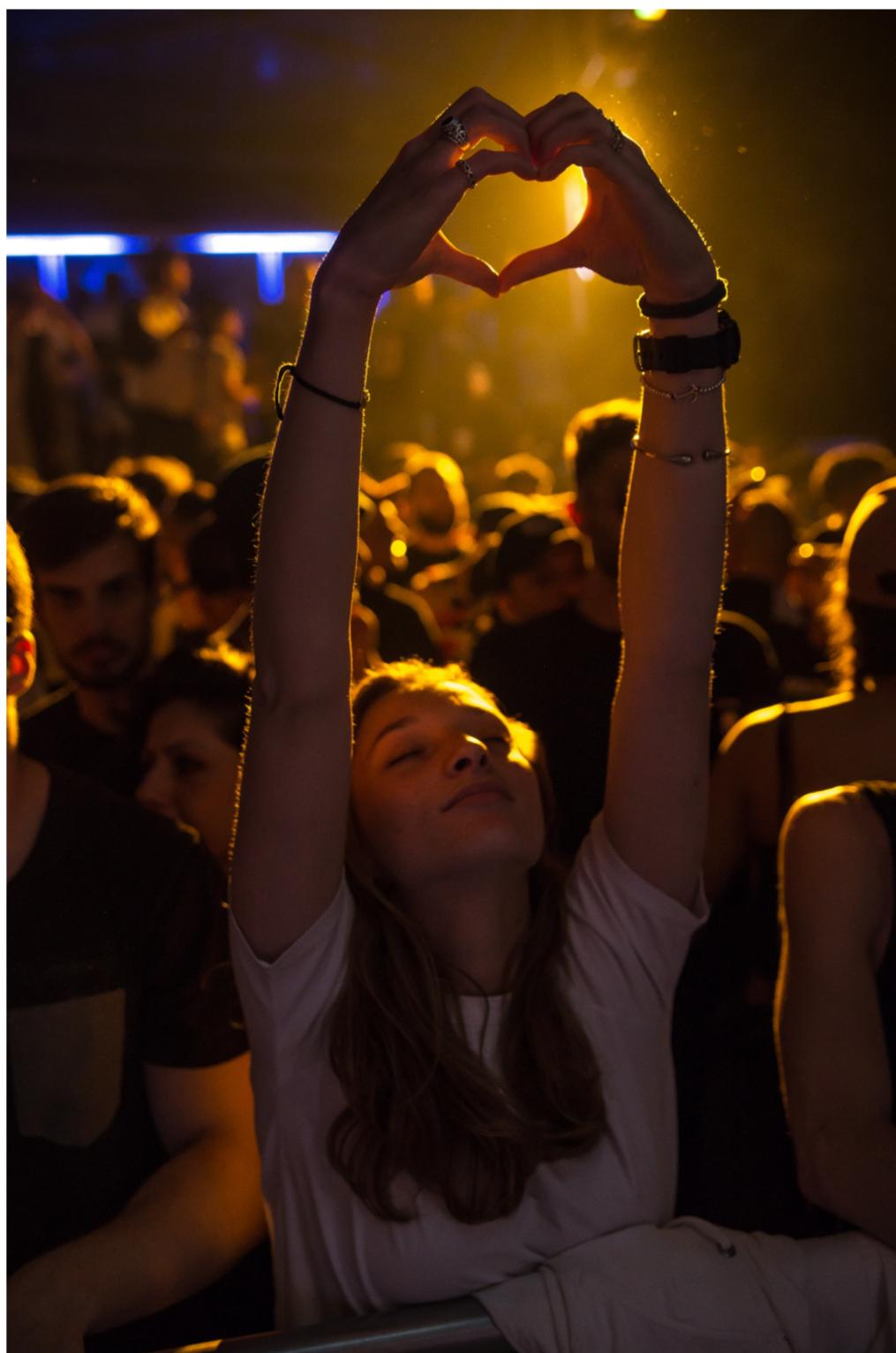
Polish Festivals

Wesam Mohamed

Pol'and'Rock Festival (in 1995–2017 "Przystanek Woodstock") - a music festival organized by the Great Orchestra Of Christmas Charity with money obtained from sponsors, sale of gadgets and targeted donations. The name "Przystanek Woodstock", as Jerzy Owsiak said about it, grew out of the legend of the Woodstock festival and the atmosphere of the flower children era. On the other hand, the word "stop" referred to the popular TV series Przystanek Alaska. On March 8, 2018, during the presentation of the amount collected during the XXVI final of the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity, Jerzy Owsiak announced that for legal reasons the name "Woodstock Stop" cannot be used further, and the festival will change its name to Pol'and'Rock Festival. In principle, the festival is a thank you to the volunteers for their work during the Final of the Great Orchestra of Christmas Charity - it is completely free for viewers. Several dozen bands from Poland and around the world perform at each Pol'and'Rock Festival. They play on the big stage and the folk stage (also known as the small stage). For 15 years, the Foundation has been organizing auditions of willing bands that want to present themselves to a huge audience. It has become the tradition of the festival not to separate the stage with barriers from the field for the participants (the exception was the performance of The Prodigy in 2011, at their special request). The front wall made of boards may be covered with flags. It is also a tradition for participants coming from various cities to prepare flags, marking their place of stay on the campsite. Order at the Pol'and'Rock Festival is guarded by a group of volunteers, the Peace Patrol, with the help of professional security, the so-called blue patrol and police that deal with breaking the law. Some of the participants of the Pol'and'Rock Festival take part in collective mud baths, under a giant shower.

Noc Kupały (Kupała Night), is a Slavic holiday. It is celebrated when the summer solstice begins as an astronomical summer. It is a celebration of fire, water, sun and moon, fertility, joy and love. In the folk tradition, the most important element of the Kupala Night celebrations was lighting fires. Herbs were thrown to fire. They believed to have healing and cleansing powers. Throughout the night people danced around the fire and ritually jumped over it. This was to drive out evil powers, protect oneself from disease, ensure fertility and prosperity. Currently, the celebration of Kupala Night is all about fun. At that time, numerous events and concerts were organized in many cities all over Poland. Moreover Pour hot wax over the water, and then look for symbols in its shape and interpret them. The shadow of our wax creation may be helpful here - projected on the wall, it is legible and stimulates the imagination.

Every year, in Brusy (about five thousand inhabitants), a folklore festival is held, several dance groups come to the city and there is a party. They dance and sing. Dancers come from different parts of the world, Russia, Mexico, Italy, Macedonia, Hungary, South Africa etc. Folklore usually comes in late July. Everyone has a great time. There are different games. This is really cool.



Italian Traditions

Stanisław Bieliński

"Venice Carnival"

The Carnival of Venice is a city festival that takes place annually in the Venetian capital. It is one of the best known and most popular carnivals in the world.

This is a masquerade carnival, everyone who's attending are dressed up.

"The Mille Miglia"

The Mille Miglia is a race for vintage cars that each year attracts thousands of fans and dozens of VIPs. The competition, also known as the Freccia Rossa, was born as a speed race and then became a regularity race, since 1977 it has been held in May along the Brescia-Rome-Brescia axis.

"San Faustino"

The traditional fair of SS. Faustino and Giovita on the occasion of the feast of the Patron Saints is one of the events that is held in the city in memory of events that happened in the past. It takes place every year in Brescia, in the city center.

During the fair we can find everything: food, clothes, games, etc.

Its name derives from the length of the route, which winds for 1,600 km (or a thousand miles). In 2019 the Mille Miglia, born in 1927 and interrupted between 1957 and 1977 for safety reasons, reached its 37th edition.

Participation is limited to cars, produced no later than 1957, which had participated (or were registered) in the original race. The round trip route follows - although there are variations every year - that of the original race, keeping the starting / finishing point constant in Viale Venezia in Brescia, at the height of the Rebuffone gardens.



Brusy

Andrea Lorini

My Polish friend lives in Brusy. It is a small town located in the Polish Pomeranian Voivodeship. It became a town in 1988. The commune contains a part of the protected area called Zaborski Landscape Park.

Brusy has a surface area of 5.2 km² and 5,209 people live here.

Brusy Commune - an urban-rural commune in the Pomeranian Province, in the Chojnice County. In the years 1975–1998 the commune was situated in the Bydgoszcz Province.

The commune consists of 23 villages: Brusy-Jaglie, Brusy Wybudowanie, Czapiewice, Czarniż, Czarnowo, Czyczkowy, Gacnik, Głowczewice, Huta, Kinice, Kosobudy, Leśno, Lubnia, Małe Chełmy, Małe Gliśno, Męcikał, Orlik, Przymuszewo, Rolbik, Skoszewo, Wielkie Chełmy, Zalesie, Żabno.

According to data from December 31, 2017, the commune was inhabited by 14,494 people and the total area is 400.74 km².

Since the 19th century Brusy was an important center of the Kashub movement, although a fair amount of Kashubians from Brusy emigrated to Winona, Minnesota in the late 1900s. In 2007, the ninth Congress of Kashubians was held here, and in 2012, the annual Kashubian Unity Day celebration was conducted here. A Kashubian Secondary School is also located in the town.

During World War II, the secret military organization Pomeranian Griffin (Gryf Pomorski) operated in the Brusy area under the leadership of Colonel Józef Wrycza, who was also a Roman Catholic priest. Brusy was also the location of the Nazis' Bruss sub-camp of the Stutthof concentration camp.

Kr bane (Krebans) is a Kashubian folk dance and music group based in Brusy, Poland. Full name: in Polish: Kaszubski Zesp ł Folklorystyczny "Kr bane" z Brus". It was founded in 1980 by W adys aw Czarnowski. The name Kr baner refers to the local ethnic subgroup of Kashubians.

Since its inception, it has received many awards, including those related to the Kashubian culture, as well as those awarded by the ministers of culture, art and education.

The group consists of 8 dance groups and 3 bands depending on the age, which include artists from children to adults.

According to the register of monuments of the National Heritage Institute (NID), the list of monuments includes: the parish church of All Saints and the church cemetery.

The T cza Brusy football club has its seat in the city. Currently, he performs in Class A (group Gdańsk III).

Full name: T cza Brusy Municipal Folk Sports Club

Established: 1946

Address: ul. Armii Krajowej 1, 89-632 Brusy

Stadium: Stadion in Brusy

capacity: 500

Highest league class: District class (group Gdańsk II)

Brescia

Alicja Lepak

Brescia is an Italian city located in Lombardy. It has 200,000 inhabitants on an area of 90 km². It is the capital of the province, the province has 205 municipalities. It is an old city, the origins date back to 3200 years ago.

The province of Brescia has 205 towns. It has 1,268,455 inhabitants, It is the largest province in Lombardy, with an area of 4,784.36 km².

It boasts three main lakes, Lake Garda, Lake Iseo and Lake Idro and also three valleys, Val Camonica, Valtrompia and Valle Sabbia, as well as a large flat area south of the city, known as the Bassa Bresciana, and various hilly areas that surround the city landscape and extend eastwards towards the Verona area and west towards Franciacorta.

What can you see there?

- You can visit the historical centre of the city
- The dozens of squares and churches
- The castle of Brescia
- The three lakes
- The valleys
- The famous Franciacorta

Brescia is a beautiful city, rich in culture, entertainment, industries and sports. It is full of funny people. It is surrounded by nature and it is always a pleasure to take a tour. There are a lot of shops, many shopping centers and lots of bars and restaurants. If you go out in the evening there is always something to do, it is a really beautiful thing.

If you want to visit an excellent city in the north of Italy, Brescia is the best option.

Free Time Activities

Mattia Previtali

Free time is an important part of everyone's life. It is often wasted and underestimated, but we must not forget that, if we were born in the past, we might not even have a clue what it is. Before the industrial revolution, in fact, working hours were much more exhausting than ours and what remained of the day was necessarily spent on rest; if we also consider that there were no holidays or vacation periods, we can understand that the concept of free time was substantially absent. Today leisure is considered a form of recreation. In fact, it is used to do whatever one wants to do. For example, I spend my free time for my swimming training or I really like watching TV series or movies. Free time is precious, it serves to carve out a few hours for us, to forget the stress and allow us to dedicate ourselves to what makes us peaceful and that we like. Often having some time for us seems to be taken for granted, because we are so caught up in the things we have to do every day that we do not care too much.

Julia Wysocka

My project partner, Mattia, told me that his passion is training. In fact, he works out seven times a week. He says it is very tiring but he enjoys it a lot. Besides that, he watches a lot of TV series and movies including anime.

