

SKL

Magazine

ISSUE #26



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Welcome back

SKYLINE
Magazine

Spring is supposed to be here already but we can't see it anywhere yet. This time of the year is usually when our students start thinking of summer or, at least, of Easter holidays. So do we! We had great news in March because the students who took the First Certificate passed the exam and we are so proud of their achievements!

Also in March Skyline attended, as always, the annual meeting of ACLLD, the regional association of language schools (we have been active members for a while now) and we were lucky to meet the new president of FECEI, the national federation of language schools.

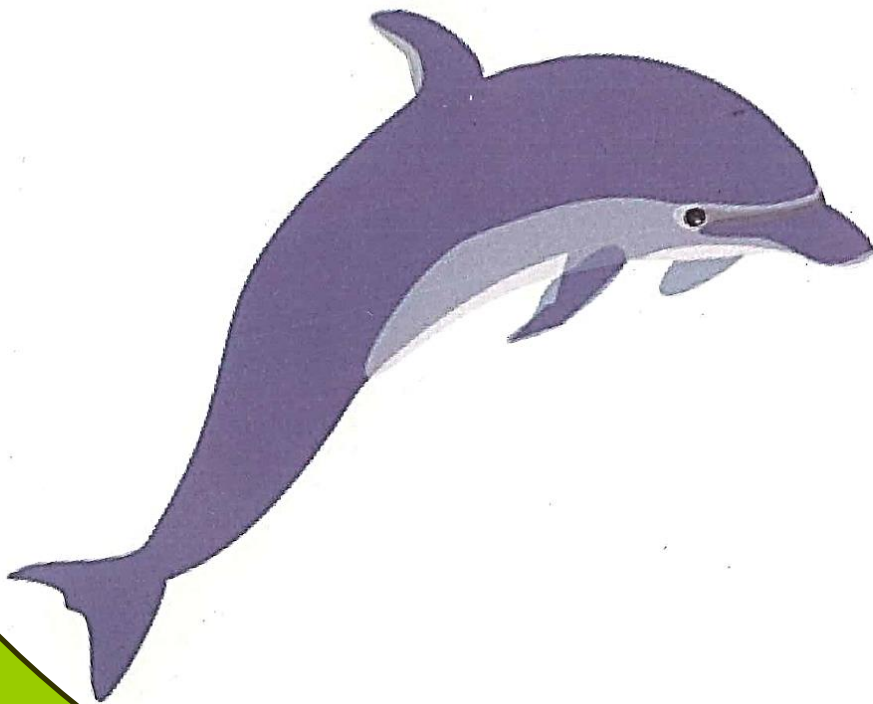
In this issue, you will find some of the work our young kids have been doing. Some adult students have helped us this month, we really appreciate their efforts and you will see that they are improving their writing skills very much. We have a wonderful story by one of our regulars and some current affairs in our city. As well, you can learn about a new condition related to your mobile phone or travel to Mexico with one lucky student in the travelling corner. As always, we offer you some ideas for your free time during April, with the incomparable help of Marta.

I hope you enjoy the reading and remember that teaching you is our priority, you inspire us every day.

Learn well

THE DOLPHIN

The dolphin lives 25 years but the oldest dolphin is 40 years old. They live in warm water or tropical water, near the coast. The colour of the dolphin is grey and white. They can only have one baby. Only the leader can get close to the babies. The dolphins eat fish and octopus. I like dolphins because they are beautiful, and they are fun.



My perfect week
On Monday I watch TV
On Tuesday I have English
On Wednesday I play at home
On Thursday I have English
On Friday I relax ^{and} do my homework
At the weekend I go for a walk

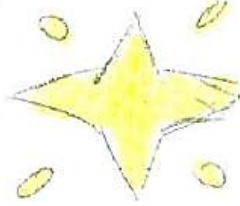


My Bedroom

This is my room. The orange T-shirt is in front of the mirror. The brown cap is on the table. The brown jeans are on the mat. The plane is under the wardrobe. The book is under the bed. The ball is on the doll. The spin is between the toy pizza and the toy gun. The toy pizza is next to the wardrobe. The mini fresbee is on the armchair. The shoe is on the lamp. The second shoe is in the wardrobe. The ball is under the sofa.



GOLD



Gold is an expensive metal. The gold is so expensive because it is very difficult to find and it is rare.

It is a very beautiful metal because it shines.

China is the first country for gold production.

Gold is under the ground and you have got to build gold mine to take it from the ground.

Gold is used as money because it is valuable. In some countries you can buy things with gold. It is also used as jewellery because it is very soft and easy to work with. Electronics also uses gold because it is often used in machines like computers.

In the past people believed gold was good for your health and they put it in snacks and drinks. Some Indians believed they could fly. Wedding rings are made of gold.



Tweets of the month



Jay Pharoah @JayPharoah · Mar 6

My cab driver just asked me if he can buy some weed off of me, ...I mean was it my Zara jacket?



Justin Hartley @Hartleyjustin · Mar 13

I mean, how important is the expiration date on a bag of Doritos? I've taken bigger risks.



bob saget @bobsaget · Mar 15

At the end of the day we all want someone we can trust who doesn't accidentally call us by their last relationships' name.



Harry Shum Jr @iharryshum · Mar 19

Don't forget to be proud of your accomplishments once in a while. Then move on, learn more and repeat.



devon sawa @DevonESawa · Mar 29

"If you think you're too small to be effective you've never been in a dark room with a mosquito"



Send us your favourite tweets
@skylinecentre

Also on 

Theatre

The Woman in Black

From 4th to 6th of April, Teatro Calderón welcomes the play by Emilio Gutiérrez Caba based on the horror novel by Susan Hill about a mysterious spectre who haunts a town. There have been two film adaptations, the first one in 1989 and the last one in 2012. Price varies between 15 and 30 €.



Les Misérables

Also at Teatro Calderón, you can enjoy, from 10th April to 4th May, one of the greatest musicals based on Victor Hugo's most successful work. A timeless story about freedom comes to Valladolid after its positive reviews in Madrid and Barcelona. Tickets range from 40 to 99 €.



Music

Jorge Drexler

On 25th of April, Jorge Drexler, singer and composer from Uruguay comes to LAVA to present his new album, "Bailar en la Cueva". He became internationally famous when he won the Oscar for best original song in 2005.



Castile and Leon Symphonic Orchestra + Iván Martín

Cultural Centre Miguel Delibes receives on 4th and 5th of April the Castile and Leon Symphonic Orchestra accompanied by musician Iván Martín. Tickets in advance cost between 6 and 7 €.



Exhibitions

Show fair

On 4th and 5th of April, Feria de Valladolid holds this event for those who are involved in promoting and developing activities related to culture. Timetable: 11.00 to 14.30 and 16.00 to 20.00.



19th Exhibition, Pottery Contest in Valladolid

You can visit the Exhibition Room in Casa Revilla until 20th of April to see the work of a lot of national and international artists. Available from Tuesday to Sunday, from 12.00 to 14.00 and from 18.30 to 21.30.



NOMOPHOBIA



What is Nomophobia?

Mobile phone addiction is, for many, the disease of the century. According to experts, the fear of being without your phone can be diagnosed as a disorder and a lot of people didn't know this.

Who can forget the mobile and not have a burning desire to come back for it? Who is out of battery one afternoon and did not have the feeling of being untraceable?

Nomofobia is the abbreviation of the phrase 'no-mobile-phone phobia'. This is the fear of being without your mobile phone, which experts say is the disease of the XXI century. How many people suffer from it?

Symptoms

Young people are the most affected. Some symptoms are:



Feeling anxious

Tachycardia

Obsessive thoughts

Headache

Stomach ache

HOW DID YOU FEEL WHEN YOU MISPLACED YOUR PHONE?



73%
PANICKED



14%
DESPERATE



7%
SICK



6%
RELIEVED
lookout

NOMOPHOBIA



Causes

Some of reasons that cause this disease are:

On the one hand, we have an absolute dependence on others because the mobile is a way to be connected. It's all a matter of self-esteem and relationship. In fact, personal insecurity is the most common cause of the nomophobia factor. An absolute slavery to mobile occurs, addiction is sometimes uncontrollable. Antonio de Dios says that people who suffer from this problem can't turn the phone off at night and, therefore, interrupt their sleep. Hence, insomnia is one of the most frequent symptoms found in patients with nomophobia. The first thing a nomophobian needs to do is to have a mobile in their hands, after a while without using it, the second step is to check it immediately.

Solutions

Some tips to overcome this problem are:



Aiming what would be a reasonable use of the telephone.

Turn the phone off during meals or during a family meeting.

Differentiate the virtual and real world.

If anxiety takes hold of us, it never hurts to consult a specialist.



Peacock

The legend tells the story of a young one, but not anyone. He lived there where the sun always shines, where everything gleams like gold, where its inhabitants live eternally and unalterably, the breeze is sweet and pure, a place where there is no scarcity and mediocrity of worldly life; it is the Kingdom of the Gods.

Our young god was who spreads the feast and the revelry as it passes, banquets and wine, music and entertainment, women and pleasure. Who all mortals adored in good times, and prayed for his return in hardship.

He was well known for his reputation as the best seductive and the most lustful lover, their conquests were always exquisite and unattainable for the rest of men.

One day, the young god noticed a splendid forest that he had never visited. Filled with the most beautiful vegetation and tours by the most crystalline rivers; however, its fame did not come by this; it was for the nymphs who lived there. Daughters of nature, more beautiful than fairies and with voices sweeter than mermaids.

Then, the young god was immersed in those woods full of purity. Looking for fun and adventure and, of course, following the desire to find those mystical nymphs.

He walked through the ground covered with grass and fallen leaves, enjoying his wet and soft feel underfoot. He breathed and got to enjoy many smells, the dew still present in the environment, flowers and nectar, the wood from the trees. He continued advancing guided by the unmistakable sound of a river, spraying everything as it passes with his golden aura of divinity, and under the watchful eyes of the forest inhabitants.

He felt the relief and the cool of the water on his feet; he leaned over to taste it when he noticed a presence watching him just across the river. He looked up and met an explosion of color, elegance and pride that penetrated to the depths of his eyes. The greatness of its bearing, the majesty of its feathers and insightful look of that peacock paralyzed him for a moment.

Suddenly, as if realizing about the deep interest that surfaced in the young god by its beauty, It drove from the rock on which rested with great subtlety and disappeared into the sea of multicolored flowers, back to the forest.



The young god continued his walk, walking absorbed in the sight of that peacock, despite the uniqueness of its bearing, could not, however, focus other than in its eyes, because it had something special in the way that it looked at him and, although he was a god, he couldn't solve the mystery.

A couple of hours later, he noticed that, besides having fun in that place, the vital purpose of his visit was finding the famous nymphs. And that's when he realized. For hours he counted the stay in that forest, and yet he had not encountered any nymph. He had walked through areas that he thought should be crowded, such as rivers or sources of essential food. And he had only been able to find more of these curious animals inhabiting the forest. As a result, he was unable to find the slightest clue about their whereabouts or existence.

He thought about going back to the Kingdom of the Gods and talk to the elderly gods. Just when he valued it as the best option, despite the possible jokes that awaited him, he saw it again. That wonderful being with its real now collected mantle again watched him with his penetrating gaze.

Amazingly the bird was gradually transformed into a young woman whose beauty had nothing to envy the peacock. Her skin was white and perfect as porcelain, dark hair ran down her shoulders and back, and his eyes were green as emerald peacock feathers that made her simple dress. And then she spoke:

- Hello. Sorry but I couldn't resist and I have been watching you. What kind of being are you? I've never seen someone like you in the woods. I have seen many humans, but you don't seem like one. You're different, your essence is different. And you emanate one powerful yet beautiful golden aura. What are you? - Asked the young woman keeping distance, with mistrust.



- I'm a god. I came to visit this forest and find the nymphs. - Explained the young god while advanced a few steps.

-Really? - She exclaimed excitedly-. *The girls always talk about the gods, but I had never seen one. What do you need from us, young god? -* He stepped back, back expectantly.

In that moment he understood everything, now he understood why he had not seen any nymph, at least not in their original form. Those animals who were watching him were really the nymphs, hidden in a discreet and cautious form to protect themselves from strangers and curious dubious intentions. He examined her to see that one who was in front of him, her eyes were bright as the gems which kept that same forest inside and all the welfare and purity that compose it. He decided that he would never know anything about another woman, he wanted her. Then, the beautiful eye acquired an impatient gesture, and was the heart who answered hastily:

I only need you. I don't need anything else in this world or in the divine, only you by my side forever.

She was prepared to flee while her feathers began to sprout and her dress was fused with the body of the nymph.

- *No! Don't transform, please. Wait; if you disappear I will die here and now.* - He pleaded.

- *Everyone knows that a god can't die. Neither fire, nor men's arms, nor gloom can with them.*

- *Love does it, love does it all.* - Responded to the astonishment of the nymph.

So that was how the young god convinced the nymph to meet each other, that day they were talking and laughing non-stop, In that fantasy forest their love story began.

Days passed and the two lovers spent together as long as possible, because the young nymph should stay overnight with the others. They all lived under only two rules: first, during the day you are free, but at night you must return to your home; the second, never show yourself to strangers, especially if they are human. The responsibility for compliance with these rules lay in the hands of the queen of the nymphs. She wasn't a queen in the strict sense of the word, but all the nymphs consider her like a wise guidance. She was the oldest of all, her word was always heard with attention and her opinion was accepted.



One afternoon, the nymph wanted to show the young god her favorite place of the forest. It was a high hill, covered only with green grass, the top was flattened, and from that place, you could see the whole forest, the waterfalls, and the variety of its vegetation and was always bathed in warm sunlight.

The young god proposed a really tempting plan to the nymph: in the morning, when everyone was asleep, he would go to the secret home of the nymphs, and they would go together to the hill to enjoy a romantic and unforgettable night observing the starry sky of the night. Finally, she agreed.

So, that day they parted at evening. In the early morning, the young god came to the agreed place. The secret home of the nymphs was hidden behind the bark of a tree with hollow trunk. You had to carefully remove the bark to enter inside the tree, once inside you had to walk down a narrow spiral staircase and arrived at the hideout nymphs. The young god imagined that an underground shelter could not be more than a kind of cave, but great was his surprise when he discovered that the forest was still present in that place. There was not soil on the floor, there was soft and comfortable grass, like the walls, and there were flowers and a beautiful underground river. The moonlight streamed through by small but numerous holes in the ceiling. It was a completely magical place.

He walked among the sleeping nymphs, resting on beds on the floor and hammocks made of herbs and leaves. At last, he found his beloved, he woke her lovingly and they left the place holding hands.

They came to the hill of the nymph and together they laid facing up to admire the sky. But the young god couldn't look away from her. Her face radiated happiness and when she discovered that he watched her, an irresistible smile spread over her face. Then, the young god bent over her, looked her emerald eyes, told her he loved her and kissed her, a kiss that increased further the words, a long and heartfelt kiss. He promised that he would remain with her always; every day she would smile and he would wake her up every morning with kisses.



They had many things to say and so many feelings and experiences to live together. But none of that could happen. The queen of the nymphs was there before them, leaning on his wooden cane.

- *You have ignored the only two rules you had to obey, rules that are imposed to protect us all. You put us in danger, your sisters, me and yourself.* - she blurted out fixing his cold look in the eyes full of terror of the nymph.

- *I'm ... I'm sorry, queen mother ... but he is not like the others, he is not a danger, he is good. He's not human, he is a god! He is a good god! You have to believe me because ... I will not part with him, my heart is his.* - She explained while pleading hugged her beloved.

- *That's stupid! You are brainwashed! He will take advantage of you and when he is satisfied, he will go, and you'll stay here with the heart shattered. That's what they do, don't be deluded, stupid girl!* - She grabbed her arm and pulled her.

- *No!* - She shouted abruptly pulling away from the oppressive hand - *If it happened to you, it does not mean that it will happen to me too. I love him, and I will be with him forever, together we will look at the stars every night, you will never get to move me from here!* - She said with tears in her eyes and looked at the young god with a smile.

- *Is that what you want? So be it!* - Furious, she raised her baton and appeared a kind of deep green power issued from the tip of the baton; it went to the young nymph and began to transform her rapidly before the helplessness and despair of the young god.

The skin cracked and acquired a dark color, the branches and leaves were growing in her body. In just seconds, the nymph had become a large weeping willow.



The young god begged to the queen for his beloved nymph. He offered her anything imaginable, offered his own life in order to bring the original form to the nymph. But before disappearing, she only said coldly: - *None of this would have happened if you hadn't come here, now she will live as sorrow tree, watching the stars every night.*

The young god came quickly to the other gods to find a solution, a way to reverse the spell. But, sadly, they told him that there was no remedy for a nymph's magic. He, however, didn't lose hope. He traveled for years, for decades. But he searched every corner of the world in vain.

He returned to the forest where his life began and ended at same time, to the hillside where the woman of his life laid in the form of willow. With the reason lost, the soul broken and the heart destroyed, he was left under the tree. At his base, he laid down between its roots and he remained there infinitely.

Gradually, over the centuries, the great willow's roots were covering him until a day, nothing was visible of who time ago was the young god.

The queen of the nymphs came to the hill of the lovers; she realized her terrible error between bitter tears. One last time, she raised her cane and a powerful aura danced around the big tree and the roots, which began to transform.

a second willow Came and the trunks of both trees began to intertwine while they were acquiring a white color as if they were made of pearls, each tree fell on one side, and gold chains and shiny leaves emerged.

That hill would be known worldwide for generations and generations by the intertwined trees with pearly trunk and leafs like gold, "The lovers' tree". They would always be protected and revered by the nymphs.

The legend says that on full moon nights a magical breeze invades every corner of the forest. The shine of the moon lights up and enhances the beauty of the two lovers creating a magical atmosphere.

Also, the legend says that the moonlight discovers an inscription on the rock that lies at the base of the trees and reads: "Here lies the true love that does it all of two souls who live together, looking at the starry sky at night forever".



An elevator in the Cathedral



For a few days there has been some controversy about a project that has begun in the city. It consists in putting an elevator in the Cathedral's tower so that everybody has the possibility to go up and see the entire city from the top floor.

For the construction of the elevator there is a budget of about 600,000 €. If you don't know why this project has begun right now and how the work will be, you can think that there is a lot of money for something that is not necessary.

I will try explain the economic situation; most of the 600,000 € is a private donation to the local government and people who had given the money, made it under the condition that it would be used for this project. A lot of politicians and people demand that that money is spent on other necessary things, for example on social services or food for the people who are living in the street. It would be a very good option, but it is impossible because there were conditions for the donation and money can't be used for other things.

Another issue is the appearance of the elevator. I have read some articles and heard some people on the radio or TV who say an elevator up and down in the tower will be horrible. This opinion is a very surprising for me because, of course, the elevator will be inside the tower and you won't see it from the street. Also, a few people know that today there is already an elevator inside the tower, but it goes up only to the first level, where the Cathedral's archive is. The question is to build another one that goes up to the top.



An elevator in the Cathedral



The project is not only about the elevator. It consists too in the rehabilitation of the tower because some parts are not in very condition. Remember the tower is not the original one of the Cathedral and it was built after the first tower, which was on the other side of the building; it was pulled down in 1841 due to the consequences of the Lisbon's earthquake (the new tower was finished in 1890). Now, the tower has some structural problems that must be repaired.

Also, and this is a personal opinion, people in our city don't know the Cathedral. For a lot of inhabitants of Valladolid it is a unknown building, and they have never listened to the real story about why it is not finished, why the architect, Juan de Herrera, left the project when only a quarter of it was built. For the city it is very important that people know more about the Cathedral, because it is one of the most important buildings in the city, regardless religion and the beliefs of each one. Maybe the fact of being able to go up to the top of the tower attracts people to visit the Cathedral, and maybe they have a visit in the rest of the building, visit the museum, etc. and learn a very interesting story about the project of the biggest Cathedral in Spain that finally couldn't be finished, specially, because of economic problems.

Two years ago I had the opportunity to go up to the tower, and it was an incredible experience. From the top you can see the entire city and some villages around, and spend hours recognizing streets and buildings. But the stairs to go up and go down are quite an experience too, but not a very good one.

I think the project of the elevator is a good opportunity for the Cathedral and the city.



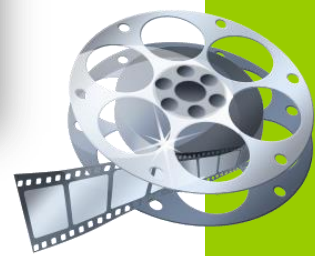


Movie of the month

DALLAS **BUYERS** **CLUB**

If I had to name the best film made in 2013, in my humble opinion, this would be it. Dallas Buyers Clubs talks about a reality that, although successfully portrayed in the past in movies such as Philadelphia (1993), reminds you of all the injustice, discrimination and economic interests that prevented so many people from surviving. This movie takes us back to a period of ignorance, in the broadest sense of the word, a period in which we thought we could “catch” AIDS by shaking hand with a patient, in which the homosexual stigma was so blinding that society would not consider that a victim could be straight.

In 1992 Bill Minutaglio wrote an article for the Dallas Morning News about an electrician, Ron Woodroof, who was diagnosed with AIDS in 1986. He did not share the doctors’ opinions and decided to try different alternative treatments. Despite his hopeless prognosis, he lived on for six more years, prescribing himself a combination of remedies. Woodroof decided to fight for his life and life conditions, in constant disagreement with the FDA (Food and Drug Administration). To that purpose he created the Dallas Buyers Club, where other AIDS patients could use the same alternative medicine as he did. This treatment was a drug combination to stave off the disease. He died on 12 September, 1992 in Texas after a long fight that helped bring awareness to AIDS, thanks to his efforts a great number of AIDS victims benefited from different treatments.





Movie of the month

DALLAS **BUYERS** **CLUB**

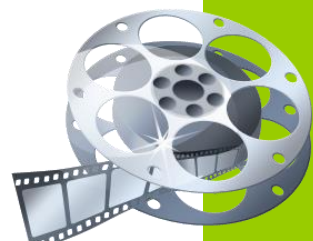
Screenwriter Craig Borten interviewed Ron Woodroof one month before he passed away so that he could create a screenplay. In addition, a great deal of other patients and doctors were interviewed. Since 1990s the script had been in negotiations with so many actors and directors that at some points it seemed impossible to make the movie. The script was linked in the past to names as Brad Pitt or Ryan Gosling though, finally, Matthew McConaughey signed up.

This is an independent movie, shot in 25 days, with a budget of \$5 million that has had revenue of \$32 million dollars and so many awards that it would be an endless list. Of course the story is touching, but what makes this movie unforgettable is the power of both Ron Woodroof and McConaughey's performance. There has been a lot of talk about the actors weight lost, McConaughey lost 21 kg and Leto 14 kg; however, I think that can be misleading and can overshadow the quality of their performances. The physical transformation was obviously important for the plot but I am under the impression that both performances would have been as outstanding without it. Either way, their superb work has been rewarded with both Golden Globes and Academy Awards.



While the character of Woodroof is based on a real person, with some details changed, which were not important for the storyline, other characters were invented. For instance, Rayon, the transsexual brilliantly portrayed by Leto after being away from acting for six years, or Dr. Eve Saks, played by Jennifer Garner. Still, sources state that Woodroof made friends among other patients after being diagnosed with AIDS.

Real Ron Woodroof



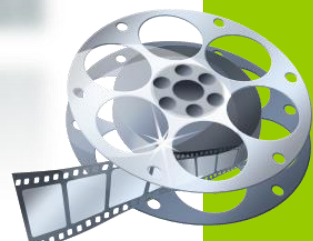


Movie of the month

DALLAS BUYERS CLUB

Something that makes this movie a little different to what we are used to is the attitude towards United States. Usually, in films, USA has the answers to every problem, they are the heroes. However, in this movie, this country is quite the opposite. Woodroof travels to other countries such as Mexico or China in search for alternative treatment, apparently other countries have more answers than USA and as a matter of fact, the only thing the States does in the movie is getting in the way of this man with restrictive laws based on the pharmaceutical companies' interests.

All in all, I strongly recommend this film because it is beautiful and tough at the same time and that is a very difficult effect to make on the audience. Moreover, there has been consensus in the reviews, it has been universally acclaimed and that hardly ever happens. I guess that if a movie received six nominations at the Academy Awards (Best Picture, Best Actor, Best Supporting Actor, Best Original Screenplay, Best Film Editing and Best Makeup- the latter with only \$250 budget), it is at least worth watching, don't you think?



Easter



Christians celebrate Easter to commemorate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. Some aspects of modern Easter celebrations, however, pre-date Christianity.

Easter derives its name from Eostre, an Anglo-Saxon goddess of spring. A month corresponding to April had been named "Eostremonat," or Eostre's month, leading to "Easter" becoming applied to the Christian holiday that usually took place within it. Prior to that, the holiday had been called Pasch (Passover), which remains its name, in most non-English languages.

In Britain Easter occurs at a different time each year. It is observed on the first Sunday after the first full moon following the first day of spring in the Northern Hemisphere. This means that the festival can occur on any Sunday between March 22 and April 25. Not only is Easter the end of the winter it is also the end of Lent, traditionally a time of fasting in the Christian calendar. It is therefore often a time of fun and celebration.

Symbols and Traditions

Apart from the Christian traditions during this period, there are a bunch of other symbols of Easter.

Easter eggs: In the UK before they were replaced by chocolate Easter eggs, real eggs were used, in most cases, chicken eggs. The eggs were hard-boiled and dyed in various colors and patterns. The traditionally bright colors represented spring and light. Easter egg hunts and egg rolling are two popular egg-related traditions. In the U.S., the White House Easter Egg Roll, a race in which children push decorated, hard-boiled eggs across the White House lawn, is an annual event held the Monday after Easter.



Easter



Easter Bunny: The exact origins of this mythical mammal are unclear, but rabbits, known to be prolific procreators, are an ancient symbol of fertility and new life. According to some sources, the Easter bunny first arrived in America in the 1700s with German immigrants. Their children made nests in which this creature could lay its colored eggs. Eventually, the custom spread across the U.S. and the fabled rabbit's Easter morning deliveries expanded to include chocolate and other types of candy and gifts, while decorated baskets replaced nests. In the UK children believe that if they are good the "Easter Bunny" will leave chocolate eggs for them.



Morris Dancing: Morris dancing is a traditional English form of folk dance which is also performed in other English-speaking countries such as the USA and Australia. The roots of Morris dancing seem to be very old, probably dating back to the Middle Ages.

In the dance men dress up in costumes with hats and ribbons and bells around their ankles. They dance through the streets and one man often carries an inflated pigs bladder on the end of a stick. He will run up to young women in the street and hit them over the head with the pigs' bladder; this is supposed to be lucky.



HAPPY

Easter



Mayan Riviera

The Mayan Riviera is a tourist area of Mexico located along the Caribbean Sea in the state of Quintana Roo.

It's a beautiful place, where you can visit a lot of interesting places like Xcaret, Xel-Ha, Tulum, Cobá, Valladolid, Carmen's beach, Chichen Itzá...

Mayan Culture

Mayan people lived divided in the Yucatan peninsula and somewhere in the centre of America, between the Mexican Gulf and the Caribbean Sea.

All the places that they occupied were in the jungle because the weather was very wet and they could find a lot of animals to hunt like tapir or quetzal.

The most important cities for the Mayans were Tikal, Copan, Chichén-Itzá and Uxmal, because they had the most important pyramids there.

They believed in several Gods. The most important Mayan Gods were:

-AH MUN: The Maya Maize God.

-AHAU KIN: The God of sun.

-BULUC CHABTAN: The god of war, violence, and sacrifice.

-CHAC BOLAY: Any of a group of jaguar gods who protected people and communities.

-CHAC: The God of rain.

-ITZAMNÁ: The God of sky.

-IX CHEL: The God of moon.





Mayan Riviera

The Mayans were prominent in:

Astronomy: The Mayans probably predicted eclipses and sunsets.

Numbers: They believed that priests invented a vigesimal system, which they used to create the Mayan Calendar.

Medicine: They used herbs and rituals to treat illnesses.

Language: They spoke about 30 dialects.

They invented the chewing gum, because they extracted the resin of a tree known as sapote.

Places to visit

-TULUM: It is the only known archaeological site located by the sea, built on the top of a cliff in the Caribbean waters.



-CHICHEN ITZÁ: This word means “at the mouth of the well of Itza”. Here you can find the Kukulcan Pyramid which is known as the castle, it is one of the new seven wonders of the world elected in 07.07.2007, here you can learn a lot of things about the Mayans because they lived there a lot of years ago.





Mayan Riviera

-XEL-HA: It is a natural aquarium park considered the largest aquarium in the world, there you can practice snorkelling and water activities like swimming with dolphins and walking under water.



-CARMEN'S BEACH: It's the most visited place of the Mayan Riviera, It's a fishing town, its main street is called 5th Avenue, here you can find a lot of shops and restaurants.



-COBÁ: It's name means "Turbid Water" because there are five lakes in Cobá called: Cobá, Macanxoc, Sacalpu, Yaxlaguna and Xcanh, and they were very important for agriculture.

Cobá has 45 roads called sacbé (white road) that linked it with other places because it served a ceremonial role, there you can find a structure called "the church" where you can find a lot of pictures and symbols of the Mayan Culture.





Mayan Riviera

-VALLADOLID: It was founded on May 28, 1543 by Francisco de Montejo “The Nephew” and he called it Valladolid because his wife was from Valladolid (Spain). Valladolid has the most important cenote of the peninsula of Yucatan called Ek-Balam. A cenote is a natural sweet water well created by the erosion of limestone, but Mayans believed that it gave them the vital liquid and they thought that it was a gate to other wonderful world. The Ek-Balam cenote is a protected area as a tourist site, if you dare you can swim there, although it is 80 metres deep. There you can see stalactites and stalagmites hanging of the rocky roof that cover the third part of the cenote.



-XCARET: It is an archaeological park, when you can see a lot of animals and the best is that you can watch the greatest show of the history of Mexico, the most important part of the show is the recreation of the Mayan’s ball game that consisted in scoring a goal passing a rubber ball through a very high ring, it was very difficult, the game ended when somebody scored a goal, the match lasted some days without a rest and some players died while they were playing, for the Mayans, the winner of the ball game was a hero.

If you like travelling and learning other cultures this is a good place to go.



Glazed Chicken with Dried Fruit and Parsnips

Ingredients

- 2 tablespoons extra-virgin olive oil
- 6 medium shallots
- 4 medium-large parsnips, peeled and cut into 1-inch chunks
- 1/3 cup apricot preserves
- 2 tablespoons whole-grain mustard
- 1 teaspoon ground ginger
- 1/2 teaspoon ground cumin
- 8 medium skin-on, bone-in chicken thighs
- Kosher salt and freshly ground pepper
- 1/2 cup pitted prunes, roughly chopped
- 1/2 cup dried apricots, roughly chopped
- 1 tablespoon apple cider vinegar

Position a rack in the center of the oven and preheat to 425. Heat the olive oil in a large ovenproof skillet over high heat. Add the shallots and parsnips and cook until golden, shaking the pan, 2 minutes.

Whisk the apricot preserves, mustard, ginger and cumin in a bowl. Season the chicken with salt and pepper; toss with the apricot glaze.

Scatter the dried fruit in the skillet. Place the chicken, skin-side up, on top. Add 1/4 cup water and bring to a boil. Cover and cook until heated through, 6 minutes. Uncover and transfer the skillet to the oven. Cook until the chicken and vegetables are tender and golden, 20 to 25 minutes.

Push the chicken to the side of the skillet, then stir the vinegar into the pan juices (add up to 2 tablespoons water if the sauce is too thick). Serve from the skillet.



LEARNING CORNER



IDIOMS

- ✓ **Have one's nose in a book** : to be reading a book.

The boy loves to read and always has his nose in a book.

- ✓ **As the crow flies** : by the most direct way, along a straight line between two places.

As the crow flies it is about six kilometers between here and the cinema.

PHRASAL VERBS

- ✓ **Lay off**: To stop doing something, give up, fired (someone) from work.

My sister was laid off from her job.

- ✓ **Do over**: To repeat a job.

You should do your homework over.

IN OUR NEXT ISSUE...

- Movie of the month:
Godzilla



- Culture: Cinco de Mayo



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