



## Merry time!



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«An optimist stays up until midnight to see the New Year in. A pessimist stays up to make sure the old year leaves» by Bill Vaughan.

Good day, dear friends! This is the last issue of our newspaper in 2019. And what a wonderful thought it is that some of the best articles haven't been written yet. Though, I want to thank each author that contributed his thoughts into this and previous issues. Wish you be hopeless optimists and hopeful pessimists in 2020!

## Irish Christmas



Christmas in Ireland is a religious festival. Here they are very sensitive to the observance of traditions and customs, and spend most of the holiday time with family and friends. Loud parties and gatherings, all kinds of corporate events fall on the pre-Christmas period.

Christmas is celebrated according to the Catholic calendar, from December 24 to December 26. However, preparation for the holiday begins as early as 4 weeks before.

It is very important for the Irish to prepare their homes for Christmas. They do the cleaning, clean out all the garbage, wash the dishes, clean up the garden. Then, the house is decorated: a Christmas tree is always placed, garlands, tinsel and toys are hung, holly branches are located on the fireplaces, and mistletoe are usually hung in the doorways. Families with children often use figurines of deer, snowmen, Santa Claus, etc. to decorate. Believers follow the fast during this time.

The celebration of Christmas in Ireland takes place over three days: December 24 is Christmas Eve, December 25 - Christmas and December 26 - Wren's Day.

On Christmas Eve, the youngest member of the family lights a candle, which symbolizes the hospitality of the house. Until 12 at night, the space under the Christmas tree is filled with gifts for all family members. It is worth noting that gifts are given not only to family members, but also to everyone who has encountered one year: hairdressers, teachers, postmen, etc. On Christmas, people gather at the holiday table, eat traditional dishes, drink drinks, sing Christmas carols, explode crackers and bon-bon candies. Christmas dinner is held from 13 to 15 hours. On Christmas morning, all participants of the holiday sort their gifts, try them on, rejoice and thank each other. December 26 begins the celebration of Wren Day, or St. Stephen's Day. There are many legends that link these two characters, but the truth is not known to anyone. In most of them, Wren dies, which symbolizes the death of the old and the birth of the new. On the streets that day, processions take place in which young men dress in straw outfits and beat the capture and killing of a bird, using an artificial figure or its image.



## Irish Christmas

The main Christmas dish is plum pudding. It consists of 13 ingredients that symbolize Christ with the disciples. The pudding is poured over brandy and set on fire, which should convey the suffering of Christ. In addition to the pudding, the table contains poultry stuffed with potatoes and cranberry sauce (goose, turkey, duck), stewed Brussels sprouts with carrots, poultry soup with vegetables, ham pies and Irish stew. The Irish drink mulled wine, Irish coffee and tea that day. The festive menu here is not only for the Christmas dinner itself, but also for the whole day.

After December 26, Christmas sales begin, retail chains drop 70-80% of the cost of their goods. Christmas festivities end on January 6<sup>th</sup>, then all decorations are removed, life returns to its usual course.

Tatiana Musaeva



# The latest sport news in Russia and the world

Usually, winter is the time when everything seems to freeze for a while. Even in sport. And everyone has a risk to become a couch potato and waste time. Though, passiveness is not a common thing about winter life. Here we suggest you the latest sports news in Russia and the world which may inspire you to do something active.

## **Russian champion in snowboarding Avtaneev received a two-year suspension:**

Russia's two-time snowboard champion, 2019 Universiade champion Nikita Avtaneev received a two-year suspension for violating anti-doping rules.



## **The defender of Real Madrid told how he is going to stop Messi in the match against Barcelona:**

The central defender of Real Madrid, Rafael Varan, spoke about the plan to neutralize Barcelona striker Lionel Messi before the match of the 10th round Examples.

## **Sochi FC terminated the contract with Kudryashov:**

Sochi FC CEO Dmitry Rubashko said the club terminated the contract with Russian national team defender Fedor Kudryashov.

## **Nurmagomedov wished Benzema good luck before the match with Barcelona:**

Champion of the Absolute Fighting Championship (UFC) Habib Nurmagomedov wished good luck to Real Madrid forward Karim Benzema before the match of the 10th round Examples with Barcelona.



## **UFC fighter Ortega expressed interest in the fight with Magomedsharipov:**

Brian Ortega, an American mixed martial artist, said he did not mind holding a duel with Russian Zabit Magomedsharipov.

## **Lebedev called Mchuna a worthy rival:**

40-year-old Russian boxer Denis Lebedev shared his expectations from the upcoming fight against South African representative Tabiso Mchunu, and also compared his future opponent with Turkish Hizni Altunkai and American Mike Wilson, with whom he had previously boxed.

## **Baker against everyone. Cleveland Quarterback Quarrel:**

Quarterback Baker Mayfield had a list.

There he included those who had ever doubted or offended him. Mayfield often used this list as a motivation when he was not tall enough without a Texas Tech scholarship. All this led the quarterback to the status of the first issue on the NFL draft. Mayfield is simultaneously faithful to the grave, and at the same time vindictive and does not forgive insults. However, Arizona head coach Cliff Kingsbury, who worked with him at Texas Tech, is a rare exception.

And let the ice in Mayfield's relationship with Kingsbury thaw over the years, largely thanks to ex-Murray's former Oklahoma teammate Kyler Murray, the Browns kid in the NFL continued what he did in college: he didn't go into his pocket for words, defended his teammates fiercely and talked about opponents what is on the mind.

Read our articles if you want to always be up to date with the latest events from the world of sports.

Yours faithfully, Tarasik Ivan



## What happened at our college in December?

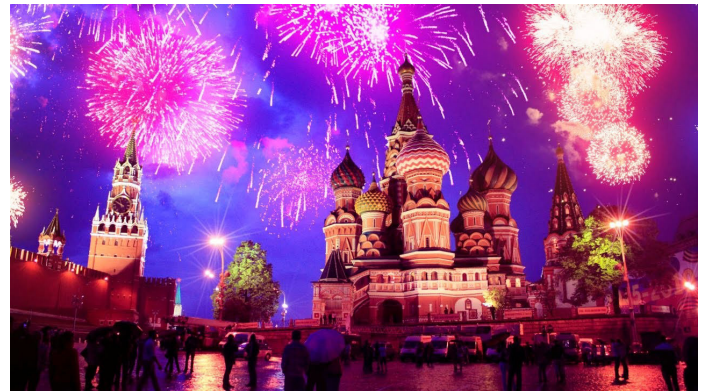
December has turned out to be eventful with plenty of things happened at College of Professional Education. Both students and College staff were getting prepared for the end of the year. Let's scroll the VK CPE page down and refresh the past events.

December was marked by major sports victories. Boys and girls from basketball teams won all possible rivals at the University level, as well as the XXXVIII Sports Contest among the Colleges of Perm Krai. College prize pool replenished with wonderful golden cups.

The grand theatre performance called «The road to yourself and back» and the Reader Contest pleased students, University staff, and invited guests. Traditionally, a large team of students takes part in social activities, making performances vivid and memorable.

Considerable work was carried out to attract school graduates to college by organized events in the regional schools.

The CPE's academic life in December was devoted to participation in Legal and English language contests. In addition, several students took part in regional training course among College students



called «The Roads of Good» with articles on the legal and organizational aspects of preventing socially significant diseases among young people.

December is a fabulous College decorating time. Several groups participated in decorating the College building to cheer up others. We look forward to a wonderful College New Year's concert and a long-awaited vacation in the winter holidays.

I wish everyone a great New Year mood, unexpected gifts and cheerful events.

Happy New Year everyone!

What are your plans for winter holidays?

Are you awaiting for the new decade 2020?

Angelina N. Kazantseva



## Weekends in the North

There are two types of winter travelers: those who avoid cold weather and those who flock to it. Thanks to the size, natural diversity, and varied climates of our planet, there are plenty of destinations across the country to suit both the pro-snow and pro-sand factions. But we want to speak about Fairbanks and Anchorage, Alaska

Yes, it's cold and the nights are long. But for fans of winter sports and snowy scenery, Alaska is a must-visit. There are a few ways to explore your frosty surroundings in Anchorage, from glacier hikes to dogsledding tours (the famous Iditarod race kicks off here every March). Take a ride further inland aboard the Aurora Winter Train, chugging through a Christmas-card landscape characterized by heavy snow and the occasional moose, to reach Fairbanks. Here you can learn all about Alaska's human and natural history at the Museum of the North, and rest your eyes on the Northern Lights, which are often visible between September and March.

Warm moments are also included while bathing in hot springs. Look at the snow-capped mountain peaks, coniferous forests, ice rivers and crystal lakes. The magnificent nature with a harsh climate scares, but attracts. One of the common activities is fishing. You can try to catch fish on a manual landing net. This is a favorite pastime of locals. For lovers of dangerous recreation, there are caves in the Mendenhall Glacier, which is located outside the boundaries of the capital of Alaska. The caves are very beautiful and breathtaking. Hubbard Glacier takes debtor's attention. The largest glacier off the coast of Alaska Hubbard continues to gain weight and grow. At the same time, it is in motion and slowly heads towards the bay. The maximum age of



ice layers is 400 years. Be sure to set aside time for buggy racing. Extreme here is within normal limits, and driving open is easy. First, the road leads through the forest, then you pass several viewing platforms and find yourself in a valley. There once a river flowed, and today there are several streams left from it, through which it is necessary to cross. This is where the real fun begins. You are guaranteed to get dirty, but the sensations are worth it. If you're lucky, you can meet deer, elks and eagles along the way.

Holidays in the North are not for everyone. But if you get to know Alaska better, you won't be tempted to leave. And if you leave, you will always want to come back.

Ksenia Votnova

## Poems, Music, Jokes

### Happy New Year

No more champagne  
And the fireworks are through  
Here we are, me and you  
Feeling lost and feeling blue  
It's the end of the party  
And the morning seems so grey  
So unlike yesterday  
Now's the time for us to say

Happy new year, happy new year  
May we all have a vision  
now and then  
Of a world where every neighbor  
is a friend  
Happy new year, happy new year  
May we all have our hopes  
our will to try  
If we don't we might as well lay  
down and die  
You and I

Sometimes I see  
How the brave new world arrives  
And I see how it thrives  
In the ashes of our lives  
Oh yes, man is a fool  
And he thinks he'll be OK  
Dragging on feet of clay  
Never knowing he's astray  
Keeps on going anyway

Seems to me now  
That the dreams we had before  
Are all dead nothing more  
Than confetti on the floor  
It's the end of a decade  
In another ten years time  
Who can say what we'll find  
What lies waiting down the line  
In the end of eighty-nine

### Jingle bells

Dashing through the snow  
In a one horse open sleigh  
O'er the fields we go  
Laughing all the way  
Bells on bob tails ring  
Making spirits bright  
What fun it is to laugh and sing  
A sleighing song tonight

Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open sleigh  
Jingle bells, jingle bells  
Jingle all the way  
Oh, what fun it is to ride  
In a one horse open sleigh

A day or two ago  
I thought I'd take a ride  
And soon Miss Fanny Bright  
Was seated by my side  
The horse was lean and lank  
Misfortune seemed his lot  
We got into a drifted bank  
And then we got upsot

### Joke time!

My resolution is to read more in 2020, so I put on subtitles on my TV.

We want to say thanks to people, who help with this issue.

The editorial staff of our newspaper:

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Happy New Year!