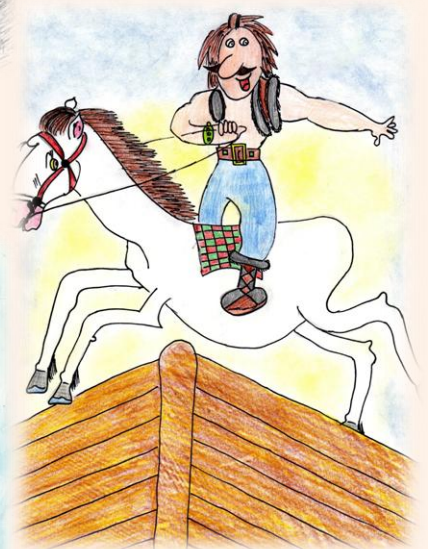


Our legends

Základní škola Přimda, Czech Republic

Collège Jean Rostand Draguignan, France

2013/14



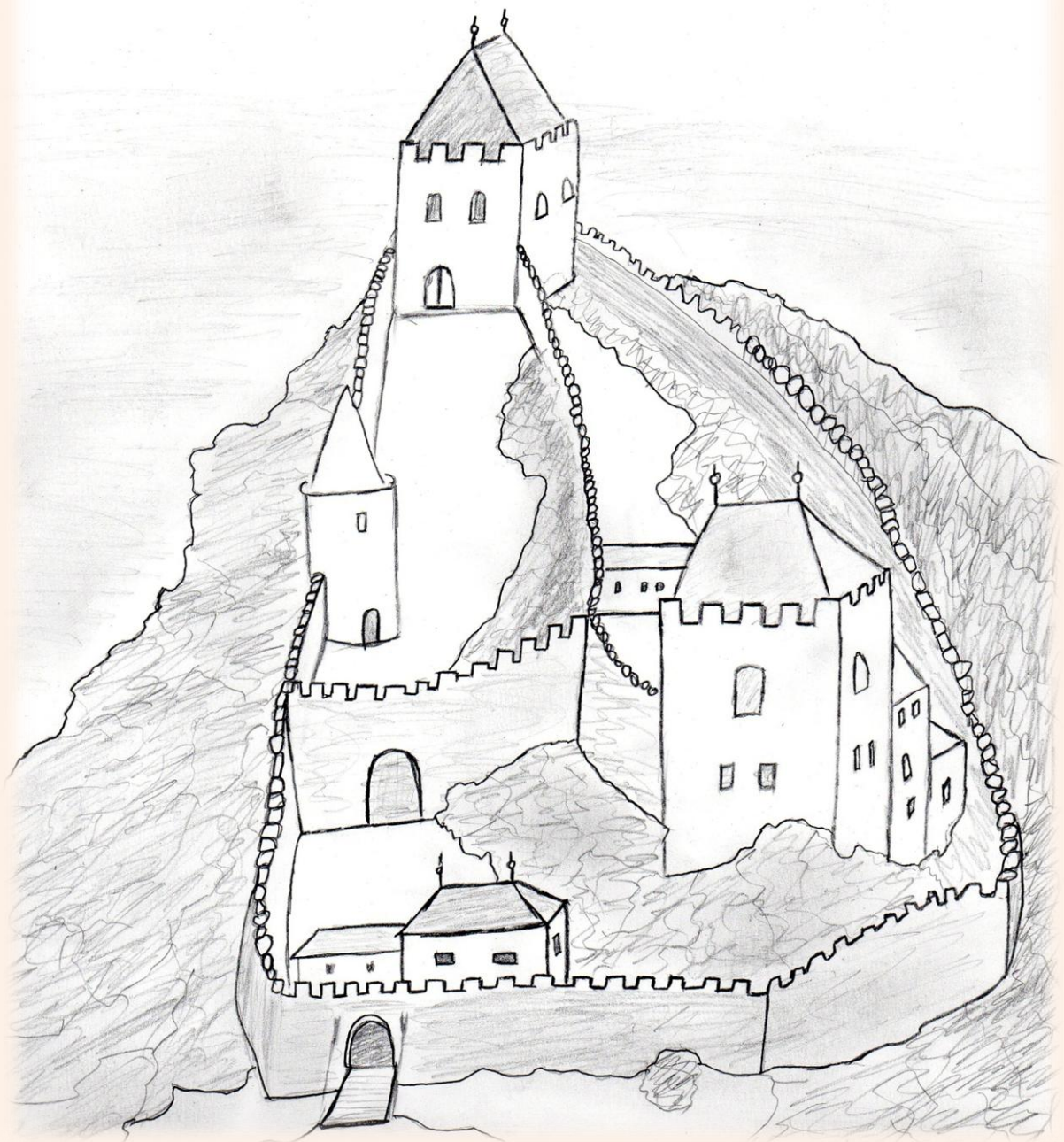
The building of the castle in Přimda

Prince Oldřich hunted in our dense frontier forests and he discovered a castle. He started to look for his owner and builder. He found out: the young earl of Altenburg lived in the castle of the German Emperor. He fell in love to the Emperor's daughter. But the Emperor won't give him his daughter. So he decided to carry her. Before he did it he had built a castle in the Bohemian Forest. He brought lots of food there. He killed the builders of the castle to nobody knows about it. He brought the princess to the castle and they lived there contented.

A guest arrived to the castle 5 years later. The guest was the Emperor. He lost the way and he discovered the castle. The young pair gave a treat them but they didn't recognized him. But the Emperor recognized them. He rode off the next day. He returned with his army and he wanted to finish off the castle and punish the earl. The princess told her father that she jumps out of the rock if he kills her husband. And the soldiers asked the emperor for mercy. He took the young pair to his court and the castle stayed desolated. Oldřich gave the castle to his servant Přím. The castle is called after Přím.

Giants in Přimda

The castle of Přimda was built by 12 giants in the gloomy prehistory. Their women bring stones for the building in their aprons. When the castle was finished the giants celebrated it in their cottage in the forest. Then one of the giants mixed some sleeping drug into the wine. They all fell asleep soon - without the poisoner and his wife who was staying on top of the castle. Then the giant set fire on the cottage. The others burned there. The castle belonged only to him and his wife now. The giant made living by robbery – he attacked merchants on the close mercantile road or he burned down the surrounding villages. The last member of the giant's family kidnapped a princess. The nobles and peasants united against him, the castle was conquered and the whole giant family was killed off.



Mystic black dog

There were two ways from Rozvadov to New Houses. The first one was longer and the second one shorter. Everybody who went the shorter way passed an old cross. There was an inscription: "Here was found a dead body of a financial guard." A legend says that a black dog was seen near this cross at the clock of ghosts (at the midnight). When the people came to him he ran whining away. He didn't hurt anybody but people would rather use the other way to New Houses. Nowadays, nobody can meet the black dog more.

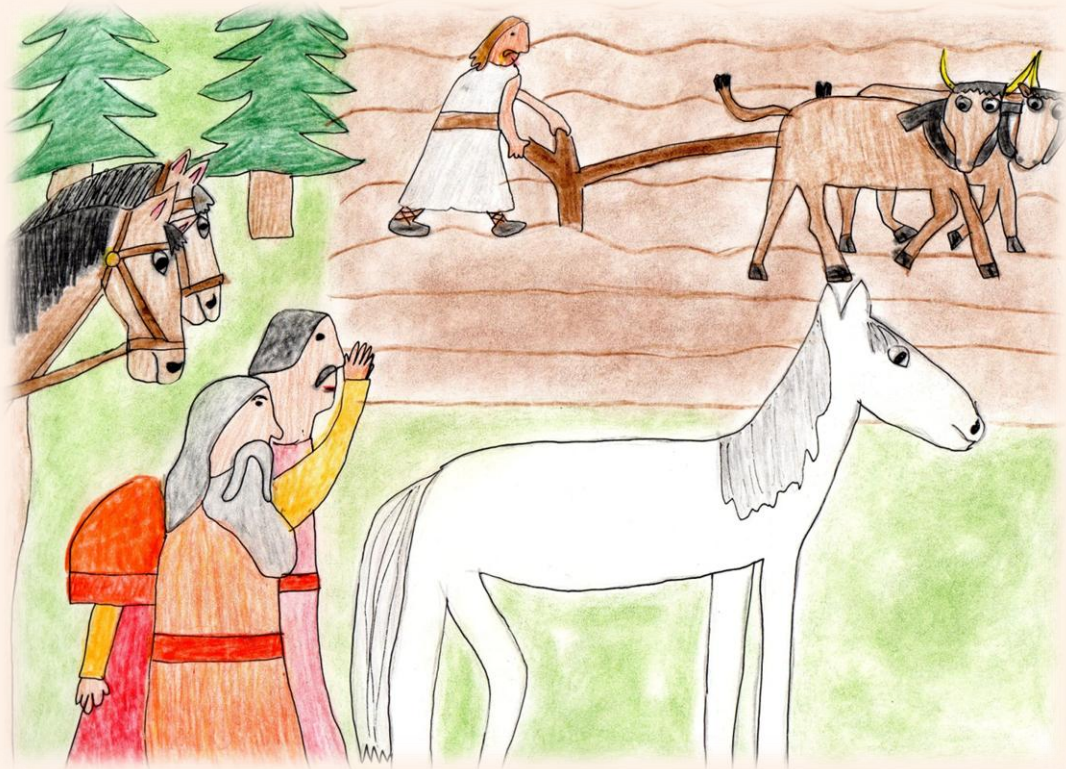
Libuše and Přemysl

Two neighbours argue. They go to the Princess Libuše. She decides their argument and the loser cries: "The men are stupid whom the woman rules! The woman has long hair but she has short sense!"

The Princess Libuše says: "He's right. You would like to have a man as a ruler. I give you my white horse. Follow my horse and you'll find your next ruler."

They follow her white horse and they come to the village of Stadice. They meet a man ploughing a field. They give him clothes and armour. They bring him to the castle of Vyšehrad and he gets married Princess Libuše.





Horymír

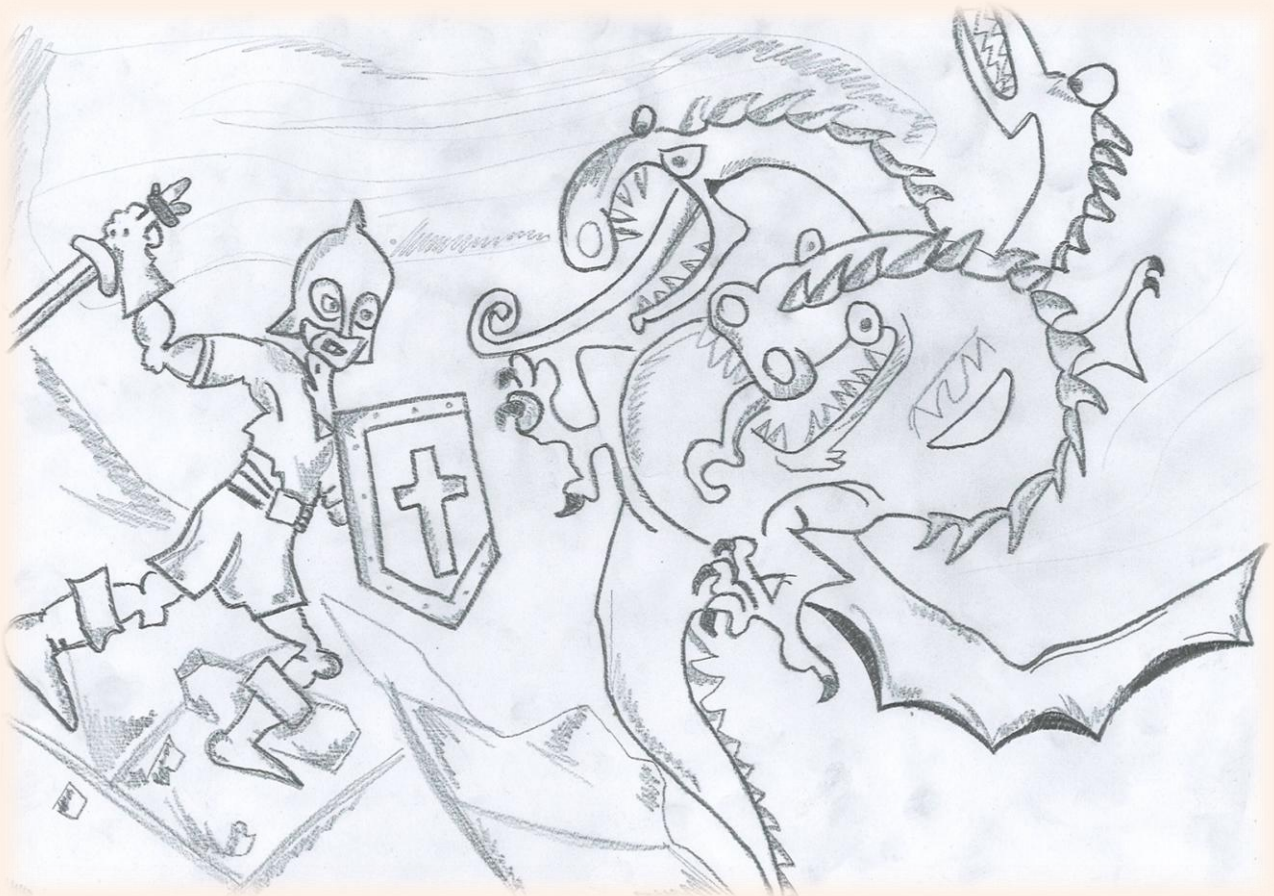
Once upon a time, the Prince Křesomysl ruled in Bohemia. In his time, the people looked for silver and gold. The men stopped caring about the field and began to look for gold. They were called miners. People were afraid that it will be hunger in the country. Horymír went to the ruler to he closes gold mines for some days. The gold mines were closed only a few days. The miners were angry. They wanted to punish Horymír. Horymír had to go to Prince Křesomysl to the castle. Horymír was sentenced to be burned. He had a last wish. He wanted to ride his horse Šemík for the last time. Prince Křesomysl agreed. His horse Šemík jumped over the castle's wall. But he got hurt due to this leap and died. Horymír built him a tomb.





About Bruncvík

His father had many honors for service in foreign countries. He also wanted to visit a foreign country to make his country famous. He arrived to a desert island in the sea, nobody who visited this island, didn't alive. Bruncvík managed to hide himself into the corps of a horse. The big bird Noh carried him from the island. He saw a lion and a dragon. They were fighting. He helped the lion to defeat the dragon. They won. He slept in a tree at night, because he was afraid of the lion. But the lion was tame. The lion defended him and they travelled all over the world. They came to a castle. The King had four eyes and the monsters served him. Bruncvík begged for assistance. Yes, but you have to liberate my daughter. Bruncvík and lion sailed to the Basilisk's Island. They killed the Basilisk. They returned the Princess to the King. Bruncvík had found a magic sword. Bruncvík and the lion went back home happily. Thanks to this the lion got into the Czech national emblem. After Bruncvík's death, the lion lay down to his grave and died.



The Dragon

The first texts written about this marvellous dragon date back to the 12th and 13th centuries. The name Draguignan comes from the Latin word 'draco', which means dragon, because according to legend a dragon once lived in Draguignan. Ancient texts have taught us that, at one time in the past, a rise in the river's water level flooded a part of the plains by gushing through the Chateaudouble gorges, like a dragon.

Local legend dictates that the dragon lived in the middle of the pestilential marshes while the Chateaudouble gorges served as his lair. He occasionally emerged in order to eat careless travellers.

This dragon frightened the population.

Pilgrims who made their way towards the Lerins Islands Monastery to visit St. Honoratus were frequently scared away by a dragon, who lived in the misty marshes surrounding the town.

According to some, the dragon was killed by the reclusive St. Hermentaire, whose statue can be admired in Draguignan's St Michel church.

According to other stories, St. Honoratus, who had already proven himself when faced with the island's dragons, stood in one spot and defeated our dragon without any opposition. The dragon was chained to his rock and soon after only his skin and bones remained.

The dragon is a legendary creature depicted as a sort of giant reptile. In many mythologies around the world we see reptilian creatures who possess more or less the same characteristics. They are generally portrayed as scaly dragons who are able to breathe fire and to fly due to their leathery wings, similar to those of bats.



The legend of the fairy's stone

The poet Raymond Feraud has made the dolmen into a meeting place for infertile women.

Dr Cavalier wrote that in Fréjus there lived Count Armand, the father of Rosilde who was seduced by one of his squires, Vilfrid.

The couple fled to Draguignan where they spent the night through a terrible storm.

A fairy, so moved by the couple's distress, built the dolmen to shelter them with a wave of her magic wand.

The most popular account/ story is the one written by the archeologist, François Perrot.

Once upon a time, there was a fairy who liked to disguise herself as a shepherdess.

Thus disguised, she would go under the orange and pomegranate groves and would play the mandolin.

The false shepherdess, thanks to her beauty, and perhaps some magical melody, managed to ignite strong feelings of passion in a local young genius who eventually asked for her hand in marriage.

The fairy agreed to marry him, if he agreed to his side of the deal, that the marriage be celebrated on a table formed out of three stones, of which she gave him a detailed description.

He recognized the stones in his beloved's description which, having hurtled down the mountain of Fréjus ten centuries ago, had piled up at the bottom of the neighbouring gorge.

Calling upon all of his physical and supernatural forces, he managed to move the first two stones, but was incapable of moving the third.

Overwhelmed, he believed he had lost the hand (in marriage) of the shepherdess.

But the fairy, to whom it was unimportant, took pity on him.

The following night, she approached the stubborn stone and drew a magic circle around it.

An immense flame shot up in the field, and the heavy stone was transported onto the two others.

At dawn, the magic shepherdess watched her love in order to share his joy at the moment he discovered the miracle.

However the young man knew only that he was but a modest genius and that he would be condemned to death for loving a fairy more gifted than he.

Thus he died, soon after the fairy went mad with despair.



The life of Saint Rosaline of Villeneuve

Rosaline was born on the 12th of January, 1263 in Les Arcs Castle. She was the daughter of Giraud II of Villeneuve, the Lord of Les Arcs, trans, La Motte and Esclans, and his wife, Aigline. While Aigline was pregnant, she heard a voice that promised, "You will give birth to a rose without thornes, a rose whose perfume will spread across all the land". From that moment on, a sweet scent of roses surrounded her.

Rosaline was the eldest of six children. From birth, Rosaline showed signs of holiness. Her face shone with extraordinary fairness. Since she was very young her main virtue was always the Christian faith. She showed great generosity by giving food to the poor, which emptied the castle's reserves.

Her father forbade her from doing this, but Rosaline couldn't help but to disobey him.

At twelve years old, she was caught by her father with an apron full of bread. "What are you carrying in your apron?" he asked her. She replied, blushing but still angelic, "Roses, father," and by opening the sides of the garment, she revealed a bunch of the sweetest smelling roses.

This event, known as the 'Miracle of the roses', took place in the middle of the month of January, thus convincing Giraud II of his daughter's divine blessing.

The place where this event took place still remains to this day.

In the year 1278, Rosaline joined the Saint-André-de-Ramières monastery at the foot of mount Ventoux as a novice. She completed her novitiate in a convent near Gap.

In 1275, Rosaline was appointed to the monastery of the Celle-Roubaud, near Arcs sur Argens, as so was close to her family once again. She became prior there in 1300.

She stayed there for forty-four years, continuing to spread her generosity. The poor got into the habit of coming and knocking on the door of the convent where Rosaline and the nuns would give out food.

She died on the 17th of January, 1329. Many pilgrims flocked to her bedside and "miracles occurred in her presence. The sick were cured of their illnesses, the paralyzed were once again free to move, the blind recovered their sight".

Although buried in the cemetery of the cloister, when Rosaline's body was exhumed five years later, a strong smell of roses emerged from her grave.

Miraculously, the body appeared intact. Even the eyes of the deceased woman had not lost their sparkle.



This book was made by pupils from Collège Jean Rostand in Draguignan and from Základní škola Přimda within the project Young polyglots

