Dear Students and Parents,

it is a great pleasure to welcome you all to one of the most famous and prestigious schools in the city of Kaunas. Over the 87 years of its existence, our school has proven to be the centre of quality education in all subject areas, with a special emphasis on the English language — the biggest lingua franca in human history.

Established in 1931, our institution has seen thousands of students graduate and go on to build amazing lives for them and their families as well as for their country, both in Lithuania and abroad. We take pride in having educated the former President of Lithuania, Mr. Valdas Adamkus, the former member of the Seimas, Dr. Kazys Bobelis, a famous Lithuanian children's writer and poet, Miss Violeta Palcinskaite and one of the most celebrated of modern-day Lithuanian composers, Prof. Giedrius Kuprevicius — only a few names among many notable personalities: scholars, doctors, scientists, politicians and educators.

We welcome you, the new 9th-graders, with high hopes of meeting your and your parents' expectations of providing you with the best quality education that is available to you today. Your class is of special importance to us — you are currently the first students in the modern history of the school who will be educated in the Bilingual Education Class. We are both excited and hopeful that the students who have accepted this challenge will benefit from our highly-qualified, enthusiastic teachers and will be able to pursue their educational goals whatever they may be.

I would like to wish everyone a very interesting, relaxing and safe holiday before the new academic year. See you in September!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Danguole Miskiniene Headteacher of the School

Information for students and parents

1) Summer homework:

In the academic year 2018-2019 all students in grade 9 will be required to read certain books for their Lithuanian and English classes. To get a head start, students are recommended to read the longer texts over the summer so that they do not have to spend a lot of their valuable time during the academic year. We recommend that you read the following books in Lithuanian:

- 1. Vanda Juknaitė "Išsiduosi. Balsu"
- 2. Erichas Marija Remarkas "Trys draugai"
- 3. Ričardas Gavelis "Jauno žmogaus memuarai"
- 4. Ignas Šeinius "Kuprelis"
- 5. Žemaitė "Marti"
- 6. Vincas Krėvė "Skerdžius"
- 7. Ieva Simonaitytė "Aukštųjų Šimonių likimas"



It is recommended that you read the following books <u>in English</u> (but reading them in Lithuanian is also allowed):

- 8. Oscar Wilde *The Picture of Dorian Gray* or Oskaras Vaildas "Doriano Grėjaus portretas"
- 9. Mark Haddon *The Curious Incident of the Dog in the Night-time* or Markas Hadonas "Tas keistas nutikimas šuniui naktį"

2) Parent Academy

The parents of the students studying at the Bilingual Education Class (BEC) will be invited to participate in a three-day *BEC Parent Academy*, which is scheduled to take place on **September 4th**, **5th** and **6th** (Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday) from 6 to 7.30 p.m. During this time parents will be able to get acquainted with their children's teachers and will be introduced to the principles of bilingual education at our school. Model lessons will be

provided for the parents to get a taste of what it feels like to be a student at the BEC. What fun!

3) Class Tutor

Your class tutor in the year 2018-2019 will be Mr. Saulius Skučas, a teacher of English who will be teaching two out of four English lessons: *Effective Written Communication* (which includes literature) and *Knowledge in the World*. He can be reached via email (sauliusskucas@gmail.com), phone (+37067570950) or FB.

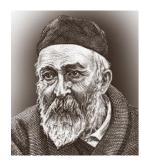
4) Foreign languages at Jablonskis High School

It is a well-known fact that one of the most important skills in the modern world today is one's ability to communicate in foreign languages well. As a result, in the academic year 2018-2019 students, especially the BEC students, are invited to learn a new foreign language. In addition to **Russian**, the choice includes **Spanish**, **German**, **French** and **Modern Hebrew**. Be sure to talk to your tutor in September, if you want to learn a new language. It's free, fun and useful!

5) School uniforms

All students are required to wear a school uniform. Our uniforms are made by the company "Tometa", which can be found at Draugystės g. 19 / Technikos g. 18 S., 51230, Kaunas. Tel.: (8-37) 455 185 / Mob.: 8 656 35783. www.uniformos.lt

6) Jonas Jablonskis



Our school is named after Jonas Jablonskis, though many people may not know who he was. Here is some information about him.

Jonas Jablonskis was a Lithuanian linguist, the person responsible for the standardisation of the Lithuanian language. His work is very important since he established a standard way of communicating in the Lithuanian language.

He was born on December 30th, 1860 (right before the Lithuanian language was prohibited). He studied at Marijampolės gimnazija and finished it together with Vincas Kudirka. In 1885 Jablonskis graduated from the University of Moscow and returned to Lithuania. He worked as a court clerk, later as a teacher of languages at a school. Later he was exiled for anti-governmental activities to Pskov (Russia) but returned to Lithuania in 1903. He became an honorary professor at the Lithuanian University in 1922. Jonas Jablonskis died on February 23rd, 1930.

Jablonskis finalized the Lithuanian alphabet (as it is at the moment) and wrote Lithuanian language textbooks such as *Lietuvių kalbos gramatika* (1922) or *Lietuvių kalbos vadovėlis* (1925). He also included many new words into the language that we use today, for example, *mokykla, rašytojas, ateitis, praeitis, daugyba, dalyba, skaičius, degtukas, tautietis* and many more.

Kaunas Jonas Jablonskis High School

