

Round the calendar

Each year is full of fascinating dates. 2016 is not an exception. The first days of September were marked by the celebration of the 350th anniversary of our native city, Ulan-Ude.

The British calendar has its own outstanding events. September and October are the months when the British commemorate two great tragedies of their history. 350 years ago the great fire of London destroyed the city. Earlier than that, 950 years ago, in October, the battle of Hastings marked the beginning of the Norman Conquest, an important period in English history. Despite the catastrophic character of the events, they played a significant role in the development of the British state, society, culture and economy.

Музыка и стихи + картинки (символы: флаг, герб и т.д. название England, my England)

Презентация Гастингс:

1. The Battle of Hastings was Normandy's historic victory over the Saxon army. The battle changed the course of history and established the Normans as the rulers of England, which in turn brought about a significant cultural transformation.
2. - In the summer of 1066 William Duke of Normandy assembled an army of noblemen and adventurers from Northern France to invade England.
A fleet of around 1,000 vessels was built to convey the army across the Channel. On September 28, 1066, William landed in England with thousands of troops and cavalry.
- They are the tapestries. (указать на слайд) The tapestry is picture of war scenes embroidered on linen with coloured woolen written stories. The original Tapestry is displayed in Bayeux and a copy in the City Museum at Reading in Berkshire.
3. The Norman troops marched to Hastings. On October 13, Harold arrived near Hastings with his army, and the next day, October 14, William led his forces out to battle.
4. The opposing forces were led by William Duke of Normandy and Anglo-Saxon King Harold. William was of Viking origin. He spoke Old French and grew up in Normandy, but he and other Normans came from Scandinavia.
Harold was the head of the leading noble family in England and crowned as King Harold II. He was the last Anglo-Saxon king of England.
5. The Battle of Hastings saw the clash of two military systems. The armies probably numbered around 5,000 to 7,000 on each side. The Saxon army centered on the King's personal bodyguard of "housecarles" with heavy battle axes. (указать на слайде) The

Saxon army fought on foot making a shield wall to attack or to protect themselves. The Normans used a mix of archers, dismounted soldiers and above all, the cavalry.

6. The Saxon army arrived in the area on 13th October 1066 and established a position on a hill north west of Hastings. Harold ordered that his army was not to move from this position. Early on 14th October 1066 William moved forward with his army to attack the Saxon position. The battle began. And now let's see what the fight was like and who won the battle.
7. Video
8. Interesting facts.
 - a) During the course of the battle William had three horses killed under him and was forced to ride round the field, his head bared, to reassure his army that he was unhurt.
 - b) Tradition has it that Harold was shot in the eye by an arrow. The Bayeux Tapestry shows Harold plucking out the arrow. But a rumour persisted that Harold survived the battle and lived secretly in the area.
 - c) After his crowning William was nicknamed the Conqueror.
 - d) The best achievement of William's administration was the survey of resources known as the Domesday Book. There was no single ox nor one cow nor one pig which there was left out, and not put down in his record.
 - e) About 20,000 Normans and other Frenchmen came to England after William. French became the language of administration, government and nobility.

Песенка London's Burning (девочки подпевают)

You have just heard a timeless children's song still well-known in Britain though it is 350 years old.

Презентация "The great fire of London"

1. The famous 'Great Fire of London' started on Sunday 2 September 1666 in a bakers shop.
2. The shop was in 'Pudding Lane' and belonged to Thomas Faynor who baked for the King.
3. The baker forgot to put out the fire he used to bake bread. Some fire wood was set alight and the fire began.
4. The buildings in London at the time were made of wood so they burnt very easily.

5. The buildings were also very close together, so the fire spread from one street to another quickly.
6. The very strong wind blowing also helped the fire to spread quickly across the city of London.
7. There were no firemen or fire engines so people tried to put the fire out with buckets of water.
8. The fire destroyed many buildings in London. They were later rebuilt using bricks instead of wood.
9. Samuel Pepys kept a diary of what he saw during the fire. He watched the fire from across the River Thames.
10. The fire was burning for four days. Luckily only 6 people were reported to have died.
11. After the fire a fire service was set up in London to make sure that it did not happen again.
12. A monument was made to remember the 'Great Fire of London'. It still stands in London today.

Перед итоговым фильмом:

Though the fire was a great calamity, it still had some positive effects (включается)

Перед макетом пожара: This year, in the early September, some London enthusiasts decided to make a replica (an imitation) of the fire for the Londoners and tourists to see. Let's join them.
(макет)

Horrible Histories is a British children's sketch comedy television series, part of the children's history franchise of the same name based on the books written by Terry Deary. There is a British group that have made up a project called Horrible Histories. They represent different historical occasions in their musical videos. This is what they composed about the Great Fire of London. Horrible Histories parody One Direction in this song about 'Starting Over Again' after the Great Fire of London in 1666. Listen and enjoy. (lyrics?) (песня)

To sum it up, we want to say that in spite of great disasters and calamities of British history, the people of the UK have overcome everything, rebuilt their cities, enriched their language and culture to become better and stronger. Moreover, they preserve their sense of humour which does not leave them in any difficult situation. They are ready to look at historical events from positive point of view, sometimes even not very seriously.