The legend of the almond tree

Once upon a time Winter didn’t want to go away from earth when his reign would end (in the end of February). He blared everywhere that he was going to stay for ever and spring would never come!

Spring learned about it and was very sad. She knew that winder lied and wanted everybody in earth know that she was going to come definitely! So she called the swallows, her symbol, and asked them to travel to earth and tell to people, animals, trees and flowers that spring was going to come and winter was lying. The swallows were afraid! They didn’t want to go to earth when winter was so angry and the weather was so bad!

Then the smallest swallow and the bravest of all came forward and said: “I’ m going”!

He travelled and flied all over the cold and frozen earth shouting “Spring is going to come on time! Don’t believe winter! Does anybody believe me? ” “I do”! An almond tree said and at once it bloomed!!!

Winter was so angry and furius! “How dare you! A silly swallow and a sillier almond tree fly and bloom while I reign over earth”? And he scrounged a thunderbolt and hit the swallow! Fortunately the thunderbolt hit the swallow on his tail and torn it in the middle. Since then all the swallows have the tail they have today, torn apart (like a scissor)!

The almond tree was crying, she thought that the swallow was dead, but she saw it flying again! The winter blew off frozen wind and all the flowers of the almond tree were frozen!

Since then the almond tree is the first tree that dares to bloom in the winter and often its flowers freeze!

But the message is that: **Spring is very close!!!**

**Almond tree: The first message of spring**

In Greece we expect the blooming of the almond tree near the middle of February. It is the first message that winder almost ends and spring is on her way! (For us spring is a feminine noun). This is the photo of the first almond tree I saw! Αt school we do a lot of relevant activities.



