



# Learning differently Bulgaria

Currently in the beginning of September, the school year begins in a considerable part of the countries in the European Union - Lithuania, Belgium, Poland, Czech Republic, Hungary, Slovenia etc. The middle of September marks the beginning of training in 11 Member States of the Union, most of them located in Southern Europe. Bulgaria is one of them.



## History

### During the Renaissance

The small schools (The monastery schools), which emerged at the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th century, did not have a specific date. Its duration, beginning and end depended mainly on the teachers (priests, craftsmen).

In some places, teachers taught only during the winter, in others - the teaching continued throughout the year. The school closed only on church holidays.

From the mid-nineteenth century, with the return of Russian graduates and fellows, the development of school laws began,

establishing a more time-bound school year.

It started at the end of August or the beginning of September and ended in June.

### After the Liberation

After the Liberation, the tradition was still observed. Legislative acts were gradually built up, formed and regulated the school organization, which generally exists today.

In 1879 Prof. Marin Drinov appointed September 1 as the beginning of the school year. This regulation was maintained until 1885.

### Reforms after the 1920

During the ministerial period of Minister Stoyan Omarchevski (1920-1923), a number of educational reforms were carried out, including the organization of the educational process.

The school year for cities began on September 15 and ended on July 12.

For rural schools, it ended a month earlier - on June 15.

***Since 1957 the beginning of the school year in Bulgaria has been on September 15.***





When autumn comes, children and parents anxiously begin to prepare for the school year. And while some wait for the last moment, others are ready a month before September 15th. Backpacks, notebooks, pens, sportswear, sneakers, clothes, flowers for the teacher - this is only a small part of the shopping list before the ringing of the bell. Classes in Bulgaria are just beginning, but in some places around the world, children are already hovering over textbooks. The day is greeted with joy and smiles by everyone, but the first-graders are awaiting it most eagerly.

Traditionally, there is a special opening ceremony.

The day begins with the raising of the national flag and the school flag.

The flag bearer raises the school flag and only then opening ceremony starts.



The official opening of the school year is attended by representatives of the local community - mayoralty, Regional Inspectorate of Education.



Songs are sung, dances are performed, verses are recited.



The youngest students - those who cross the threshold of school for the first time are the happiest ones.

According to Old Bulgarian tradition, the director pours water in front of them for more luck and success.



Guided by their teachers, the students cross the threshold of the school!



Everyone wants to share the emotions of the summer vacation, The day is full of smiles, many autumn flowers and wishes for a successful school year.



**Happy first day of school!**

