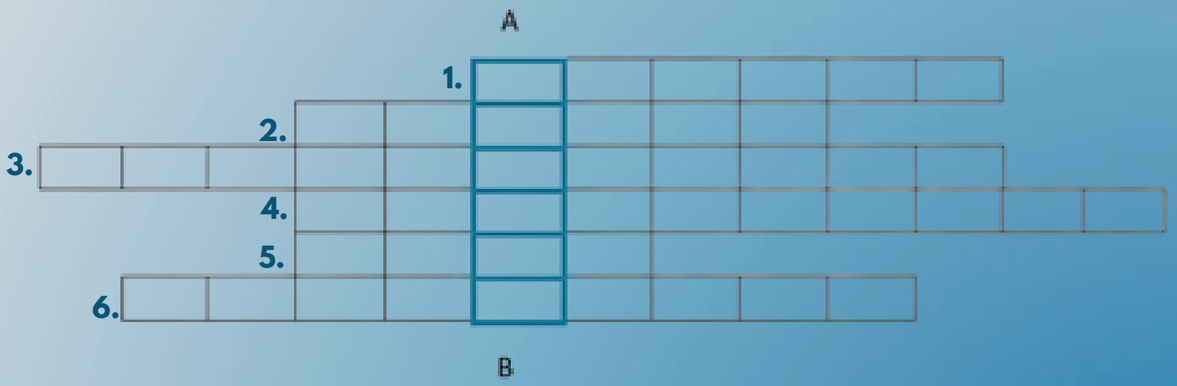
REBUS



1. What do we call the layer of gases surrounding the Sun or a star, visible during a solar eclipse?
2. What is the smallest particle of light that carries energy?
3. What is the bright disk of the Sun where most of its visible light is emitted?
4. What is the layer of gases surrounding a planet, like Earth?
5. What do we call the natural satellite of the Earth that reflects sunlight?
6. What instrument do astronomers use to observe distant objects in space, such as stars and planets?



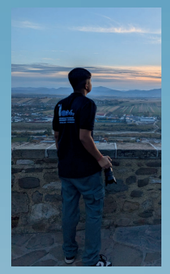












-daily news-

ASTROPHILE

4th edition

23 October, 2025
Piatra Neamț, România







WEATHER

18°C / 63°F
5°C / 42°F











Memories from the past day (the 22nd of October):

★TEST 2 - THE BLIND MAP

The first of these rounds consisted of three different blank sky maps, where students had to identify constellations, curves, and other celestial elements. This test lasted 60 minutes and assessed their knowledge of the night sky, attention to detail, and spatial orientation. After completing this stage, the children were taken to the ceremony hall to watch the film "WILD NATURE". Following the screening, they were invited to the inner courtyard, where they painted their hands and left creative handprints as a fun and memorable activity.

★TEST 3 - INDOOR OBSERVATIONAL ROUND



Before beginning the third and final test, the students enjoyed a joyful moment in the ceremony hall, dancing and singing alongside our volunteers. This light-hearted activity helped them relax and celebrate the experience before the last challenge.
In the Indoor Observational Round, the children were seated and had to use telescopes to identify images not visible to the naked eye. This round combined precision, concentration, and observational skills in a dynamic and engaging way.



★CULTURAL EVENING

On the evening of October 22nd, starting at 9:30 PM, the elegant salon of Ceahlău Hotel came alive with joy and excitement for a wonderful cultural evening. The event lasted until almost midnight, filled with music, dance, and unforgettable moments.
The evening opened with Dodiță Ioana Alesia and Sabin Octavian Ioan, National Vice-Champions in Sports Dance (2024), performing a graceful Viennese Waltz to "Die With a Smile."
Our hosts, Oliver Tonco and Anya Mihăilă, spread energy and warmth, creating a lively and cheerful atmosphere.
The cultural journey began with India, represented by a talented young girl performing a traditional dance. Canada followed with a beautiful song, and Lithuania enriched everyone's knowledge by presenting the great poet and composer Mikalojus Konstantinas Čiurlionis.
Colombia brought rhythm with a joyful dance, joined by their coordinating teacher, and shared a short cultural video. Moldova performed a lively hora, inviting everyone to join, while Greece and Bulgaria presented traditional dances.
The UAE performed the Tarabana dance with lots of energy.
Malaysia sang beautifully, Czech Republic performed a couple dance, and Nepal combined dance with guitar.
Poland had a fun moment with Anya pronouncing difficult words, Italy hosted an interactive Kahoot quiz, Romania delighted with a traditional dance and the performance of "Andi Popa", Sweden sang their national anthem, and Estonia performed a traditional dance.









A special performance was presented by Cristiana Macovei, singing in Ukrainian, followed by performances from Ukraine and China.
The evening concluded with Colbu Denisa, Gâdei Maria, and Toma Ana Maria, performing "Așa-s Moldovencele," a lively Moldovan folk song.

The night was filled with joy and unity, as children, volunteers, and even some teachers joined the dances. Everyone left with smiles, happiness, and unforgettable memories, celebrating friendship, diversity, and the beauty of culture.





This cultural evening at Ceahlău Hotel was truly one of the most meaningful and beautiful experiences, a perfect celebration of art, culture, and togetherness.



Romanian Word of the Day: "**LUMINĂ**".It means "**light**." In Romanian folklore, lumină isn't just physical — it symbolizes hope, wisdom, and the human soul.

"Just like the stars bring lumină to the night sky, knowledge brings lumină to the mind."

"We are all in the gutter, but some of us are looking at the stars." - Oscar Wilde

How was it for you not having your phone for two days, especially in a world where we've all become so dependent on them?
Daniel: It was really bad! Not having my phone for a few days felt terrible. I usually use it to watch videos and to talk with my family and friends. Since I'm from Colombia — which is really far from here — it was quite difficult to be without it. But now that I have it back, I'm happy again.

DISCOVER ROMANIA

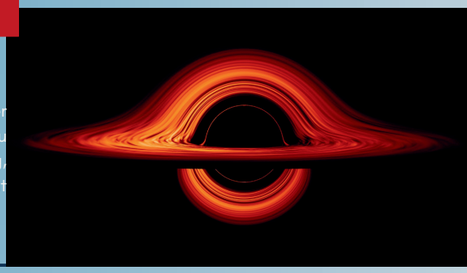
Not far from Piatra Neamț rises Mount Ceahlău, often called "the Olympus of Moldova". Local legends say the mountain was once a giant turned to stone by the gods. Every year on 6 August, when the sun rises behind the peak, a mystical pyramid-shaped shadow appears — locals call it the Shadow of Ceahlău, a natural optical illusion that looks like a stairway to the sky. So if you think astronomy is magical, just know — Romanian mountains have their own kind of cosmic beauty too.





WHAT WOULD HAPPEN IF YOU FELL INTO A BLACK HOLE?

It's both terrifying and fascinating! If you fell into a black hole, gravity would stretch you thinner and thinner — a process scientists call spaghettification. Time would also slow down for you compared to the rest of the universe. From the outside, it would look like you stopped falling, frozen in time. So maybe don't pack your bags just yet — space tourism to black holes might need a few centuries of planning.



ROMANIAN BLOUSE



The traditional Romanian blouse, the ie, is a living piece of cultural heritage — and one of its defining components is the altiță, a rectangular cloth panel sewn across the shoulders that connects the front and back of the blouse. Originally designed to give more freedom of movement, the altiță later became a true canvas of identity and symbolic expression.
Over the centuries, it evolved from a simple functional element into a richly embroidered zone where women expressed their regional identity, social status, and artistic skill. The motifs stitched into the altiță vary across Romania: in Oltenia, you'll find dense geometric patterns — rhombs, spirals, "S" shapes, zig-zags — often carrying astral or spiritual meanings, while in Moldova, smaller floral or linear motifs are arranged in neat horizontal rows.
The altiță is more than decoration — it's a visual story told through color, patience, and tradition. To wear an ie is to carry a piece of Romania's soul, woven with history and meaning.