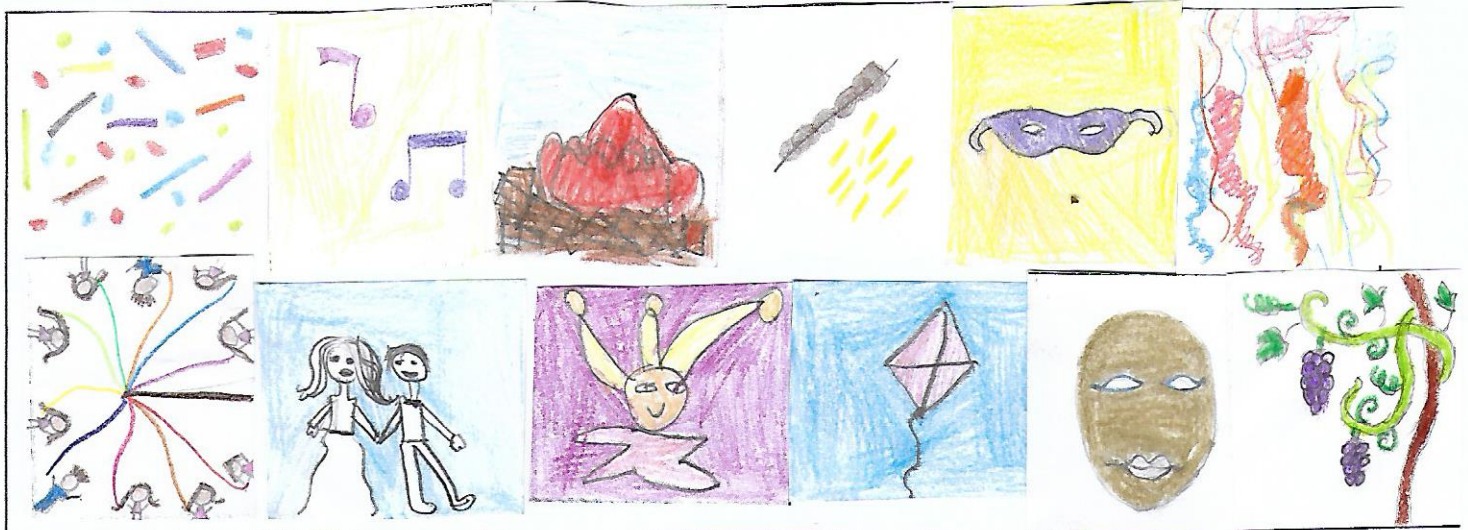


# My Carnival, Your Carnival

School and class: 8th Primary School of Rhodes

City and country: Rhodes - Greece

Hello there! Thank you for participating in the "My Carnival, Your Carnival" culture exchange!  
First, you can collectively draw or make a collage about Carnival in your country or region:



Now, explain to a class of students from a different country what your Carnival is like. What is the best part about it? How do people dress up? Do you wear masks? Feel free to be creative!



The Carnival in Greece has its roots in antiquity and specifically, is associated with the feast of the god Dionysus who was the god of wine and feasting. People wore costumes and masks and had fun with songs and dances like we do today. One of our most famous customs is the carousel. It is a dance in which dancers wrap colourful ribbons around a pole. Then they dance in reverse and the dance ends when the ribbons are unrolled. Another custom is the representation of marriage. Usually the role of the bride is played by men and they satirize the wedding ceremony. In the second week of Carnival and specifically on Thursday, "Tsiknopempti" is celebrated. That day we cook and eat meat party and have fun. Another custom is to light a fire. Tradition says that this is how the unpleasant things of winter burn and the pleasant things of spring are expected.