

## **The history of “Dr. Ioan Mihalyi de Apsa” Elementary School**

Throughout the years, in the historical Maramures, the town of Sighetu-Marmatiei was and remains an important economical, cultural and spiritual centre, a real capital of the “Maramures soul”. The town knew periods of powerful development, but also moments of constancy or decay being under the influence of the political and administrative systems of the times. In the last years it began to crystallize, to maintain the elements based on the market-place, opening new perspectives in the evolution of the town. Most of the people have to face a lot of problems in order to ensure proper, civilized conditions of work and life, in order to change the citizen’s mentality and to bring harmony in the local and responsible community.

Our county became very important in time by remarkable cultural institutions such as: The Academy of Law (1836), The Association for Culture of the Romanian People from Maramures (1860), The Romanian “Preparandia” (1862), Dragos-Voda High school (1919). Among such cultural institutions we can also mention our school - “Dr. Ioan Mihalyi de Apsa” School which functions in two buildings built in different periods of time. The old building dates back from 1885, when there were The Primary School and the Civil School which late was transformed in the Romano-Catholic Secondary School for girls until 1948, when the building of the school was nationalized and the nuns went to monasteries. Between 1948-1960 it functioned The Hungarian and Combined High School and from September 1960 it came into being the Primary School of 7 years no. 3, with teaching in Romanian, which became of 8 years between 1965-1966, having until 1968 classes with Hungarian teaching. A new part of the building was built in 1968 because of the building number of pupils and it was attached to the old building.

Our school adopted at September the 1<sup>st</sup> 2000 the name of “Dr. Ioan Mihalyi de Apsa” Elementary School in order to honor the memory of the great personality Ioan Mihalyi de Apsa, a patriot linguist, doctor in law sciences and a member of the Romanian Academy “Mihalyi de Apsa” brought into life the glory of the ancestors and revived the national conscience.

Throughout the centuries this cultural symbol, our school situated in the heart of Sighetu-Marmatiei grew its prestige, modeling the minds and hearts of several generations between its walls. Many of the cultural people, teachers, doctors, engineers or workers of prestige were the students of our school. A symbolic institution of the Maramures teaching and education, this school sent its representatives in places of great reputation of the Superior Education in our country and abroad.

The present-day leadership of the school represented by Mr. Vasile Danci, teacher and headmaster and Mr. Florin Simion, teacher and assistant headmaster, together with the entire faculty of teachers make great efforts to maintain the tradition and the prestige of our school, taking into account the nowadays social economical situation.

“Dr. Ioan Mihalyi de Apsa” Elementary School is organized in three teaching levels: pre-school, primary and secondary.

There are 6 groups containing 160 pre-school students in the pre-school cycle, 17 classes containing 385 students in the primary classes and 15 classes with 379 students in the secondary school. The management team and the Council of Administration were and are still concerned to assure an efficient management which focuses on the most important problems in order to apply the New Law of Education, such as: to apply the new National Curriculum and the New Plan, the development of the technical and material facilities by creating projects of investments, the

assurance of the extra-budgetary financial resources, the designing of the Project of the development of our school.

The greatest efforts made by the managerial team and by the entire staff of the school have as a consequence the very good results obtained by the pupils of our school at Olympiads and School Contests, at the National Evaluation and Admission in High School. There is a permanent desire to achieve high standards taking into account the pupils skills and competences in order to teach and educate them for the society of the future.