



Where is Santa right now?



Do you know where Santa Claus is at the moment? Not? Then let me tell you the way!

It all started in 1955, a store in Colorado Springs posted an add in a newspaper on Christmas Eve inviting the children to call Santa Claus, the only problem was that the phone number was misspelled. So, calls began to arrive at the Air Defense command center. Taking the red phone, the military man Harry Shoop listened to the first child who was calling Santa. Harry did not hang up, but began to think up the coordinates of the place where Santa is flying at the moment. After that, he discussed this with his colleagues and everyone started taking calls and tracking Santa for children. It has become a tradition. Now everyone can enter Norad Tracks Santa into the search engine and track Santa's location.

Emilia Cara – 6F

X-Mas in Greece

In Greek, "Happy / Merry Christmas" is "Cala Christugenna".

On Christmas Eve, children, especially boys, often go outside singing kalanda (hymns). While singing, they play drums and triangles.



Sometimes boat models are also brought, decorated with nuts painted in gold. Boat transfer is a very old custom in the Greek islands.

If children are good at singing, they can be given money, as well as food such as nuts, sweets and dried figs.

In Greece, Agios Vasilis / Άγιος Βασίλης (Saint Basil / Saint Basilis) often brings gifts to children on January 1, as it is Saint Basil's Day.

The Callicants are the demons of Greek folklore who appear in the human world at Christmas. These demons live underground. They are the size of a child, themselves skinny and bony and always go naked, but they wear red hats on their heads. They ride lame, blind, and crippled hens, or horses and donkeys the size of a dog. Some have horse or donkey hooves instead of legs.

To make them disappear, priests go home on Epiphany, January 6, and bless them with holy water.

Greece is filled with unique traditions based on history, community and favorite food.

Kirill Klepikov – 7F



Weihnachten in Deutschland

Der wichtigste Feiertag für die Deutschen ist zweifellos Weihnachten im Dezember. Doch vor Weihnachten bereitet man sich auf diese schönste Stunde vor, indem man langfristig kleinere Feste veranstaltet. Der Advent leitet die Festtage ein. Der Advent beginnt am vierten Sonntag vor Weihnachten. Dann ist dies das erste Kommen. In kleinen Familienkreisen feiert man das Erste und das Nächste. Sie fangen an, ihre Häuser zu schmücken und einen Weihnachtsbaum aufzustellen. Es kann Fichte, Kiefer sein. Aber das ist immer ein Nadelbaum. Manche stellen auch ein paar Tannenzweige auf

den Tisch oder einen Lichtbogen in ein Fenster. Das Blumenarrangement umfasst normalerweise vier Kerzen. Am ersten Adventssonntag wird eine Kerze angezündet, die andere an jedem weiteren Adventssonntag.

Nicole Arutynova 6F

Thai New Year (Songkran)



Thai New Year (Songkran) is a holiday of the Sun, celebrated on April 13th and marks the beginning of a new astrological year.

There are many interesting New Year traditions in Thailand. One of them is blessing with water, which has a great importance for the holiday, as it symbolizes purification and renewal. On the first day of the New Year, all Thais perform a special ceremony at home - they sprinkle scented water from silver bowls on the family statue of Buddha.

In addition, the Thai people purify each other: one of the Songkran traditions prescribes pouring water on others as a sign of respect. Usually, those who are younger do this: they carefully water the shoulders and backs of older comrades, saying special blessings and wishing good luck in the New Year.

Another pleasant custom is associated with the New Year - to tie special strings on the wrists for good luck. "Fenkie" must be worn without taking it off until they are untied or torn by themselves.

Another way to receive a blessing is to allow yourself to be anointed with special white clay from a small silver cup. This New Year's tradition is one of the oldest in Thailand. Clay paste symbolizes protection from evil spirits; it is smeared on different parts of the face, neck and torso.

Veronika Boikova - 7F

Weihnachten Abendessen

Festliches Abendessen beginnt am Heiligabend. An diesem Abend isst man einfaches Essen. Das kann Kartoffelsalat mit Würstchen sein. In Berlin isst man— Currywurst, in Bayern— Weißwurst, in Nürnberg— Rostbratwurst, in Rhein— Blutwurst, in Norddeutschland— Festtagskarpfen. Am 25. Dezember sammelt sich die ganze Familie zusammen. An diesem Tag isst man viele Süßigkeiten. In Dresden backt man Christstollen mit Nüssen und kandierten Früchte. Das backt man lange vor Weihnachten. In Aachen macht man rechteckige Honigkuchen mit ganzen Mandeln, in Augsburg— Pflaumenkuchen, in Schwaben— Zimtsterne. Die Hauptdekoration der Weihnachtstafel ist Gänsebraten mit roter Kohl und Brezeln. Weihnachten trifft man ruhig und besinnlich.

Elizaveta Pashanina - 6F

Cupcake in a mug

Flour - 4 tbs
Sugar - 3 tbs
Cocoa - 2 tbs
Soda - 1/4 tsp
Egg - 1 piece
Milk - 3 tbs
Butter - 3 tbs
Vanilla extract - optional



First mix flour, sugar, cocoa, milk and egg. Then add butter into this mixture, stir it and next add soda and vanilla extract. Stir this mixture. Pour this mixture into a mug. Bake it

for 4 minutes at a temperature of 800 microwave. Finally, the cupcake in a mug is ready.

Bon Appetit!

Kate Stebletsova – 6F

Some tips for a nice New Year's Eve

Today I will tell how to have an amazing New Year's Eve!

In the morning you should go to the theater with your friends. Enjoy the performance!

In the afternoon you should have lunch and decorate your house (get it ready for the celebration). Decorate your Christmas tree and hang up Christmas lights. At night you should go for a walk with your family and make a wish at 12 o'clock!

Ksenia Kochkina – 6F

Christmas traditions in Scotland

A part of my family lives in Scotland (the UK). As a result we have a lot of Christmas traditions in my unusual family. Let me tell you about them! I have never been to Scotland on Christmas and New Year's Eve and one of the traditions is connected with this. Since we have a time difference of 3 hours in winter, my Scottish part of the family starts celebrating earlier, and we always video-call each other via ZOOM. This usually happens at my Dad's house, but this Christmas is different, because my Dad is in Scotland now. They always get together with the whole family, sit together in Aunt Mandy's living room, and talk to us on ZOOM. Then they set the table and start celebrating. Santa Claus brings gifts on

Christmas night. And so that he could bring some gifts, children put food for Santa Claus near the fireplace (or under a Christmas tree). Usually it is a glass of warm milk and gingerbread cookies. These are the best Christmas traditions in Scotland in my opinion.

Karina O'Connor – 6F

Top 6 movies to get into the Christmas Mood



1. Home alone/ Home alone 2 – Lost in New York. – 1990/1992
2. Harry Potter – All parts.
3. The Polar Express. – 2004
4. Christmas Chronicles (Part 1 and 2) – 2018/2020
5. How Grinch Stole Christmas (with Jim Carrey) - 2000
6. Jungle All the Way (with Arnold Schwarzenegger)- 1996

Have you ever seen these movies? No? It's time to get into the Christmas Mood! You still have some time to do that before New Year's Eve!

Yulia Mikhailovna Podstavnyagina

