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# Enjoy English with Us



Illustration by Liliana Borčinová, 2.b class

# The Magic of Christmas Time

by **Natália Halásová, 9.b**

Christmas is a time of joy and peace when a whole family meets around one table. Christmas Eve opens the door to the magical world – the Christmas tree in the living room, scent of cookies, excitement in our hearts. This time of the year gives us a chance to forget everything bad and enjoy lovely moments with our family members. Christmas atmosphere gives us the feeling of safety and calmness.

The important part of that season are also traditions. Cooking and baking together, decorating gingerbread cookies, house and Christmas tree, watching traditional Christmas movies or singing carols – every family has their own traditions, for example eating wafers with garlic and honey, throwing walnuts to the corners of the room cutting an apple to see if we are healthy next year...this is the real magic of feeling at home.

And what would it be like without Christmas presents? They are not just the objects that we get but also an expression of love, attention and care. For me, the best part of Christmas is giving presents to my family members because it is the moment when I feel happiness in my heart thanks to making someone else happy.

To sum up, Christmas is my favourite time of the year because even though every member of our family is different during this time we are connected to each other by an invisible string, like pearls on the necklace. It gives us hope and a chance to gain new strength to become even better person than we used to be.

I hope that the Christmas time has given everybody the feeling of safety, love and it has left a beautiful mark on our hearts.

# Wonder

by Michaela Sojková, 9.a

Cutting out my words  
To see how they will float  
There's nothing I can do  
Cuz all I want is you  
I cannot live without your presence  
I no more ask my parents  
Worst month of the year  
Who knows what happened here  
I wonder  
It's like a thunder  
You start to tremble  
Are you in trouble?  
I still look back at messages you send  
I no more can stand  
I hate this all  
I don't want to fall  
I should stop caring  
I no more care about you failing  
It's not my entertaining  
I no more care who you're meeting  
Just know I'll always remember

# A Visit to Christmas Market in Vienna

On Friday we went on a fun and exciting coach tour to Vienna. The trip lasted the whole day and it took 2 hours and then we arrived at the first stop – the Chocolate factory in Kitzee. We took a tour around the whole manufacturing place and we could buy chocolate desserts at the factory. Our next destination was the famous Christmas market in Rathausplatz. We were running around the whole place for one hour and some of us bought numerous things, such as many flavours of punch at the wooden stalls. There were also Christmas-themed crafts and all the place was filled with Christmas songs.

The sightseeing tour around Vienna was truly magical and special apart from the cold, rainy and windy weather. The Time Travel interactive museum was also one of many interesting and spectacular destinations. The whole trip was really wonderful and we had a chance to experience something new.

**Alexander Mechenski, 8.b**

On the 1<sup>st</sup> of December me and my classmates went on the coach tour to Vienna. First, we visited the chocolate factory. It was interesting, but the smell in the factory was terrible. I bought there some chocolate and it was good. Later, we went to the Christmas market in Vienna. I bought there a snowman and some other decorations. I also liked fries that I bought there. Then we went sightseeing and we saw some historical places of Vienna. Everything was really interesting but the weather was bad. It was raining either rain or snow. At the end we visited the Time Travel Museum. The technology was so advanced – we were in the cinema the seats were moving. After a while we put the VR glasses on and we found ourselves in historical Vienna with Maria Theresa, waltz dancers and robots. We were in the WW 2 bunker where was a simulation of a bomb attack. We bought some souvenirs. At the very end we got on the bus and we headed home. The trip was so good and fun. I enjoyed the trip very much. Even the bus ride was fun.

**Dominik Díreš, 8.b**

On Friday, 1<sup>st</sup> of December, me and 51 other students of the 8<sup>th</sup> grade went on a coach trip to Vienna. Our first stop was a chocolate factory in Kitzee. There was a little chocolate shop where the chocolate was very cheap. After chocolate factory we went to Vienna Christmas market. It was raining so, we had to have umbrellas. At the Christmas market I bought a cup of hot chocolate for 10,50 eur. Then we had a sightseeing tour of Vienna. It was great. Our last stop was the museum called Time Travel. We went through about 7 periods of history. The first one was a time-machine travel, which was really interesting and fun. At about 6:45 pm we left Vienna. The way home was long (around one and a half hours). On the way home, we were singing in the bus.

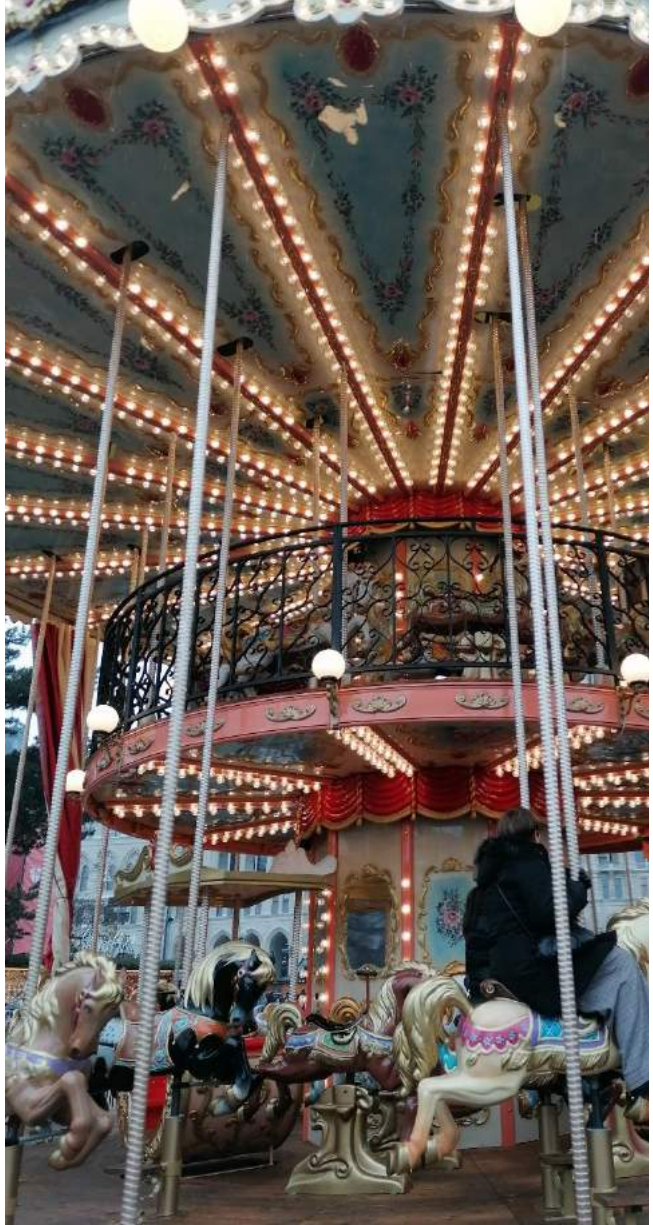
**Zuzana Szeredyová, 8.b**

Our trip to Vienna started at 8 o'clock in the morning. Before the Austrian border our mobile phone operators started sending us messages about crossing the border, services and phone numbers in case we get lost in foreign country. At 10 am we arrived at the Chocolate Factory in Kitzsee. It has a long tradition of making chocolates for many states around the world, like neighbouring countries Slovakia, Slovenia, Czechia, Australia, the USA and the UK. After seeing the manufacture of chocolate and pralines, we could buy chocolates. The prices don't include the transport costs so they are very cheap there. When we were at the Christmas market in Vienna, I bought a Santa Claus decoration for 18 euro. I know it was expensive but the quality is so good that it was worth it. The Christmas market was good but the weather was not so good It was raining and snowing. We had to hold umbrellas above our heads. The sightseeing tour was so good. I really liked it!

**Rastislav Szeredy, 8.b**

We went to Vienna with both 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes. We were 51 people and it was a coach trip. We went to the Christmas market in Vienna. It was such fun. Me and my girlfriends were together all the time. We got Christmas punch in the cutest cups. We bought some matching rings and ate fries with ketchup. We laughed a lot and made a lot of photos. When we were at the Time Travel Museum, it was interesting because we learned a lot about the history. The ride home was pretty fun. I really liked the trip to Vienna!

**Carmen Kúseková, 8.b**



# Our Trip to London

by Dominik Lintner, 9.a

From December, 4th to December, 8th 2023, 34 pupils from our school together with Ms. Gabriela Čáscarová and Ms. Alena Merčiaková went on a coach trip to London.

We travelled through Slovakia, Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium to the French port of Calais. There we boarded a ferry to the UK. After several hours spent in the bus we finally reached our destination and unpacked our suitcases in the houses of very friendly families which we stayed in.

On Tuesday we visited the famous Tower of London. We learned that it used to be a fortress and a prison, and it is now a museum of the magnificent crown jewels, which we had the opportunity to see.

On Wednesday we visited the seaside town of Brighton, a popular holiday spot for Londoners. We visited the British Airways i360 tower in Brighton from which we had a great panoramic view of Brighton. We also visited the oldest public aquarium in the world - Sea Life Centre. I enjoyed the underwater tunnel in which I saw many sharks and turtles. I recommend this attraction to everyone.

On Thursday we started the day with a tour in Greenwich, the place where the zero meridian is located. This was also a great view of the city. We continued with a ride on clipper boats on the river Thames and arrived at the London Eye. From there we had a unique view of the beautiful city of London.

I think the objectives of the excursion, e.g. communication and getting to know the cuisine, housing and way of life of the cities of London and Brighton were fulfilled. We also had the opportunity to see the most famous sights of London and Brighton and we have a bucketful of unforgettable experiences.





# SCHOOL NEWS FROM

## LONDON



some funny stories  
than we experienced :



When we came there were already a lot of people on board so the lady took us to the VIP seats and we sat on these electric chairs and we could go down to the cafe or a little shop .As we trawled with the ship on our way to London a student broke down the door to the captain's room and than ran off, and someone almost took down the fire alarm.

Then we finally arrived and went to a cable way it was really cool but sadly it was raining



Then they saw somone swimming in the water and said it's dorota from Slovakia and she came to visit us

We also made new friends on the way because another school traveled with us

by Annemarie Rosinská and Zina Mikleová, 7.b class

# Autumny Foil



It's not Hot,  
It's not Cold,

It's not Sunny,  
It's not Warm,

I can see Rain,  
That isn't Wet,

„But okay Mama,  
I'll call you back !“

It's not Snowy,  
It's not Dry,

I can see Clouds,  
That don't Cry,

"But okay Mama,  
I'll wear my hat!"



It's not Windy,  
It's not Calm,

I can see a Storm,  
That's oddly Warm,

"But okay Mama,  
I've got my coat!"

It's not Spring,  
It's not Fall,

I can see Weather,  
That's not Helper,

"But okay Mama,

I'll be just fine!"



Idea : *Miška Kováčová*  
Realization : *Tomáš Rybár*



Illustration by Tamara Šustáková, 6.a class

# Why we like Christmas

Christmas is perhaps the most important Christian holiday – hence the name: Christ – Jesus Christ and mas- day. We celebrate the birth of Jesus all across the Earth. Of course, there are different types of Christians, like the Protestants who celebrate Christmas at the beginning of January.

In the evening we and our families unite at one table and we serve Christmas dinner consisting of soup, fish with potato salad and gingerbread cookies. And this is the reason why many people prefer this Christian holiday even if they are atheists over all the other holidays.

Of course, there is the exciting part when adults and children open up their beautifully wrapped presents that their parents and siblings have prepared for them.

**Alexander Mechenski, 8.b**

I like the Christmas atmosphere because the whole family is together. I love all the Christmas decorations, I also like the smell of Christmas trees. I love making gingerbread cookies or any Christmas sweets. I really like the winter Christmas spirit. I enjoy the Christmas holidays because we can finally rest and spend more time with the family. This time of the year is so calming. I also love decorating the Christmas tree and decorating our balcony with Christmas lights.

**Nina Vicanová, 8.b**

I like Christmas because of a beautiful atmosphere. We decorate the Christmas tree, watch typical movies and decorate our house. Of course, the best thing are presents.

I really like Christmas dinner and all keeping Christmas traditions, like cutting apple into two halves, throwing nuts into the corners of the room. Me and my family usually go skiing. And I also like Christmas because we have 2 weeks off. 😊

**Peter Porubský, 8.b**

Christmas means a beautiful atmosphere, carols, markets in towns and cities. Christmas is the time when Jesus Christ was born and it's the second biggest holiday for Christians after Easter. Churches are decorated beautifully, also towns and cities sparkle with all the lights. We, students, have winter holidays for two weeks when we have a lot of time, for example for reading books, going skiing with a family and have fun.. We go skiing to ski resorts, like Krahule, Králiky, Drozdovo or the High Tatras. The carollers go from house to house and sing Christmas carols and wish well to families. It's a beautiful tradition. In December we visited the Christmas market in Vienna. It was perfect! And this is the reason why I love Christmas.

**Rastislav Szeredy, 8.b**

I like the Christmas atmosphere, like the music but sometimes it is getting annoying because every single year we have to listen to the same songs and they are starting to play them right after Halloween. I kind of like winter but there is no snow outside because it's warm. I like Christmas because it is almost the end of the year and I like to celebrate it in different places. I like the

Christmas dinner. It is the only “magical” dinner of the year. I also like eating carp but the bones are pretty annoying. You must be really careful when eating it. Every year there is someone who swallows the bone, chokes with it and ends up in a hospital so, it’s kind of dangerous.

**Dominik Díreš, 8.b**

I love everything about Christmas. On 24<sup>th</sup> of December we wake up and we have breakfast. After that we clean, cook, bake. Then we have lunch – we always have lentil soup and some curd cheese cakes. My cousin and my uncle visit us after lunch. I always go for a walk with my cousin and we play with my dog Bella, our cat and rabbits. When they leave, I watch Christmas movies and fairy tales with my brother. In the afternoon, we go to church and churchyard with Dad and brother, while Mum and Grandma are cooking. On that walk we watch people’s Christmas trees or decorations from outside. After that we go have a shower and dress up for the festive evening. Then we pray and eat tasty dinner. When the bell rings, it’s time for opening the presents. I think everybody enjoys this moment.

**Daniela Hercegová, 6.a**

# Are Christmas presents really important?

by Sofia Lukačková, 9.b

Christmas is a winter holiday when we celebrate the birth of Jesus Christ. People buy presents for their family and friends. Giving a Christmas present is a great tradition. I like the feeling when somebody opens a gift from me and I can see the excitement in their eyes but I also like when somebody gives something to me. This year I don't want a lot of gifts because I think I have everything I need but I'll be happy when I find books under the Christmas tree.

Christmas is not about presents. For me, the most important thing is to spend time with my family, enjoy eating typical Christmas food, watching Christmas movies, like Pelíšky, listen to Christmas carols and of course, attending the Christmas concert in our church. I love the Christmas atmosphere.

In conclusion, Christmas is not about spending money on expensive presents. Don't be stressed out if you haven't bought expensive gifts for everybody because more important is to spend this magical holiday with your family and friends.



TO  
buy  
or  
NOT  
TO  
buy?

Illustration by Nina Hudecová, 8.a class

**From your diaries...**

## **Christmas time**

**by Tamara Šustáková, 6.a**

Today I woke up and found out it's Christmas Eve. I was so excited and I simply couldn't wait till the evening!

We watched Christmas movies all day, baked cakes, made salad and visited our relatives.

Then the evening came. Me and my brother were so excited. We got dressed and went downstairs. We took some photos and then ate dinner. We had potato salad and fish. After that the gifts came. My Mom took a video of us unwrapping the presents, like she does every year. We got a lot of gifts. Then we went to our grandparents where we had a lot of gifts, too. We talked together and laughed. We ate some gingerbread cookies and cupcakes.

Afterwards, we went home and from the balcony we could see the polar lights in the sky.

It was our first Christmas in our new house and one of our best!





## How is New Year celebrated in Istanbul, Türkiye

I received a Christmas card from Ali Kerem. He is 13 years old and attends the 8th grade. He is a boy of medium height. He has got brown hair and brown eyes. Istanbul is his home place. And he wrote about New Year's decorations in Türkiye. Turkish streets and avenues are decorated with lights and stores with snow and balloons. Houses are decorated with pine trees. He celebrates New Year at home with his family. And with them he plays board games like Jenga or Uno. He watches special New Year broadcast on TV. His biggest New Year wish is the end of Israel-Palestine war conflict. He wants to be successful in the high school exam and pass it.

**-Peter**

I have gotten a message from Yagmur that attends the 8th grade. Christmas is not the primary thing that she celebrates with her family. They don't celebrate the birth of Jesus at all, they mainly just celebrate New Year. On that special day, they buy and give each other gifts and presents. When someone is sick or just doesn't have the mood to celebrate, they can celebrate either way indoors through TV programs that broadcast the whole day competition programs. When midnight strikes 12:00 pm, there is a New Year celebration. This student mainly enjoys Kim Milyoner Olmak Ister (Who wants to be a millionaire), where they can guess quiz questions. At the end of the celebration, they wish one another happy and prosperous year with a lot of health.

**-Alexander**

I got a card from Hayriye, 8<sup>th</sup> grade student from Istanbul. She celebrates New Year by playing a lot of board games, for example : taboo, twister, monopoly, uno and bingo. She has written me how they play bingo. Numbers up to go written on cards are put in a bag. Cards are delivered to people and numbers are pulled from the bag and person has that number says she or he has it. If others have it, they put stamp on their cardboard. The first person who completed the numbers on the cardboard is the winner.

**- Zuzana**

I've got postcard from 7<sup>th</sup> grader Elif Ece. She goes to school in Istanbul. Her favourite hobbies are reading books, watching sci-fi movies and taking photos. They celebrate New Year Eve together with her family and they play board games and have a talk together. When the clock strikes midnight, they hug one another wishing well. Best thing about New Year for her is that the whole family gets together.

**- Rastislav**

# Childhood dream

by Hana Jakubcová, 8.b

I live in Slovakia my whole life. But the thing is I really want to move to a different country. I travel a lot so it opened my eyes even more in this.

The main reason are opportunities for studying and education because success comes from hard work and education. So, in that case I want to go to university somewhere abroad. I think that will be a perfect start. But when my study chapter ends, I want to live somewhere near the ocean. Somewhere with hot weather and beautiful beaches. I may say that I am a summer person so I really want to live a summer life. Other things like politics, economy or the environment are important for me, too. To be honest, I don't think that Slovakia fulfills any of these categories in comparison to other countries. It seems to me that our Slovak society is very nervous, divided and people forgot what is important. But I see this like a sad thing that a person in my age wants to leave this country because of that. For person like me, there are literally no opportunities and no future here. I started to learn languages in very early age and this situation in this country keeps me convinced that I want to study even harder. In spite of all these bad things I think that Slovakia is very unique country on history and culture.

However, this fact cannot stop me from moving to a foreign country because what is more than to wake up to a sunny weather, go snorkeling on a beautiful beach, eat the sea food, be successful and live my childhood dream.

# Childhood dream

by Laura Kostolániová, 8.b

If I had the chance, I would like to move to Germany or Switzerland. My reasons would probably be my dream job and university.

Since I would like to do interior or factory design, it would be a lot easier to find a job and it would be better paid somewhere there. Yes, I could probably find a job of my dreams here too, but you have so many different choices in Switzerland for sure. I also love mountains and snow so another reason would be the Switzerland Alps, the beautiful nature and animals. I really like the architecture in both of those countries, but in this category, I like the German gothic architecture more.

When was a little girl, my dream was to live somewhere in a German speaking country. The nature in both of these countries is breath-taking. I know a lot of people would choose to live somewhere near the sea or ocean but my dream has always been to live there. I like the sea and summer too, but if I had a chance to live near the sea or near mountains, my choice would be mountains for sure. I would love to live in some cozy mansion in the mountains or even in a small cottage. I would like to travel all around Europe. It would be really hard to pick only one of the countries, just because one would be more for study and work and the other one more like a childhood dream. On the other hand, I would need to leave my family, friends and a lot of memories here. Another reason for not moving is the language barrier – that would be the biggest disadvantage.

To sum up, I would love to move to a foreign country, but it would be really hard to leave everybody and everything here.

# Know you Minibeests



1. What color is earthworm blood?

- a) orange
- b) red
- c) yellow



2. How long does an earthworm live?

- a) one to two years
- b) five to ten years
- c) three to six years

3. Where do dragonflies live?

- a) in caves
- b) near water
- c) near volcanoes

4. What color is bee?

- a) yellow and blue
- b) black and yellow
- c) red and green



5. What does spider eat?

- a) mouse
- b) chicken
- c) butterfly



6. What color is the spider?

- a) brown and black
- b) yellow
- c) orange

7. How does fly move?

- a) jump
- b) walk
- c) by flying

8. How many legs has fly got?

- a) five legs
- b) ten legs
- c) six legs

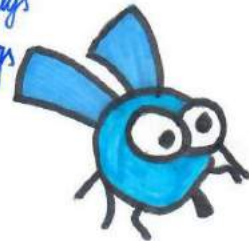




Illustration by Viktória Kováčová, 6.b