

ใบความรู้ที่ 1 เรื่อง New Year around the World

หน่วยการเรียนรู้ที่ 5 เรื่อง Festival and Celebrations

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รายวิชา ภาษาอังกฤษ รหัสวิชา ภาคเรียนที่ 2 ชั้นมัธยมศึกษาปีที่ 3

New Year Celebrations in China

Celebrated in January or February, depending on the lunar (moon) calendar

China's New Year celebrations do not occur at the same time as Australia. The date of Chinese New Year is based on a lunar (moon) calendar and takes place on the second new moon after the winter solstice. Chinese New Year is a 15 day festival with many traditions.

Traditionally, Chinese New Year activities can include:

- cleaning the house to symbolise removing bad luck and making room to receive good luck
- putting up red decorations around the house to symbolise future success
- a reunion dinner with extended family on New Year's Eve with lucky dishes such as fish and dumplings
- fireworks displays to ward off evil
- gift giving, in particular gifts of red envelopes containing money
- lion and dragon dances at festivals

Each Chinese year is associated with one of the 12 animal signs of the Chinese zodiac calendar.



New Year Celebrations in New Zealand

Celebrated on 31st December (New Year's Eve) and 1st January (New Year's Day)

Along with Kiribati and Christmas Island, New Zealand is among the first in the world to celebrate the new year.

Many of New Zealand's New Year celebrations are held outside under the sky and can go for several days.

Traditionally in New Zealand, it is a time to let go of all troubles and worries and set positive goals and resolutions for the future year ahead.

The traditional people of New Zealand are called Maori. They celebrate their new year in June or July, depending on the lunar (moon) calendar, with food, dancing, music and stories.

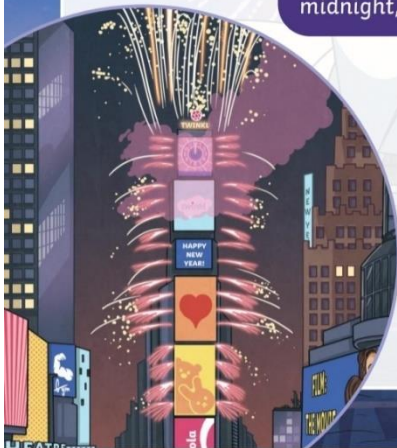


New Year Celebrations in the U.S.A.

Celebrated on 31st December (New Year's Eve) and 1st January (New Year's Day)

Throughout the U.S.A., many celebrations and events are held to welcome in the new year.

Times Square in New York is one of the most famous locations for New Year's Eve celebrations in the world. People gather for live music and performances before they watch the 'Ball Drop'. A large and brightly lit ball sits high in the sky and slowly lowers down during the minute before midnight, counting down to the new year.



Many Americans will gather on New Year's Day to watch the Rose Bowl game of American Football.

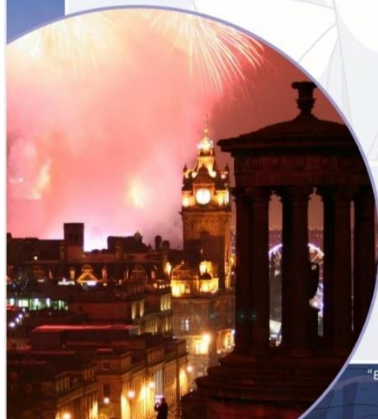


New Year Celebrations in Scotland

Celebrated on 31st December (New Year's Eve) and 1st January (New Year's Day)

Scotland have one of the biggest New Year celebrations, known as Hogmanay. Hogmanay means the last day of the old year. Traditionally, it is celebrated with lots of food, dancing, gift giving and visiting family and friends. Many Hogmanay celebrations are held around Edinburgh Castle.

At midnight on New Year's Eve, people will cross their arms over their bodies and join hands with the people standing next to them to sing a special song called 'Auld Lang Syne'. This is an old Scottish song that is a way of saying 'days gone by'.



In Scotland, an old tradition called first footing is practiced. It is believed that the first person who enters your home after midnight will bring all the luck for the coming year. This person is called the 'first-footer' and symbolises good luck bringing gifts of coal, bread, money or greenery.

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New Year Celebrations in Germany

Celebrated on 31st December (New Year's Eve) and 1st January (New Year's Day)

The German New Year's Eve is also known as Silvester, named in honor of Pope Silvester who died on 31st December 335.

There aren't any official events organised for fireworks on New Year's Eve in Germany. Instead, fireworks become available to buy and for groups of people to safely create their own.

Traditionally, German people would melt down small pieces of lead or tin and then quickly place it into a bowl of water. The metal solidifies in the water and predictions are made based on the shape about what the year ahead holds for you.



New Year Celebrations in Japan

Celebrated on 31st December (New Year's Eve) and 1st January (New Year's Day)

Ōmisoka is the Japanese term for New Year's Eve.

Japanese people complete a big clean up of their house in the lead up to New Year's Eve. It is believed that this will help you start the new year with a fresh mind.

Traditionally, it is not common to see fireworks at midnight, instead bells will play for about 1-2 hours as a Buddhist tradition. The bells are struck 108 times as it is a sacred number.

A shimekazari is a wreath made of straw rope, paper strips, bitter oranges and fern leaves. Japanese people will make these and hang them on their doors to ward off evil spirits.



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New Year Celebrations in Greece

Celebrated on 31st December (New Year's Eve) and 1st January (New Year's Day)

In Greece, it is believed that you will have good luck in the coming year if you receive a gift on the first day of the new year.

Similar to first footing in Scotland, the tradition of good footing happens in Greece. At midnight on New Year's Eve, families will turn all the lights off and go outside. One person who is considered lucky will enter the house with their right foot first to bring good luck for the following year.

Traditionally, a Vasilopita cake is made for the new year with a coin hidden inside. The person who receives the slice with the coin is considered lucky and may receive a small gift.

On New Year's Eve in Greece, you will likely see onions hanging on people's front doors. Onions symbolise growth and it is believed that hanging them on the door will bring growth in the new year.

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New Year Celebrations in South Africa

Celebrated on 31st December (New Year's Eve) and 1st January (New Year's Day)

South Africa is filled with all-night parties to celebrate the new year.

Cape Town holds a New Year Carnival with groups singing, dancing and wearing bright clothes and face paint.

There used to be a tradition of throwing old furniture out of the windows to symbolise a fresh start. This has been restricted as many people were getting injured from falling furniture.

