



INVESTICE DO ROZVOJE VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ

Číslo projektu	OP VK 1.5 25549863
Název projektu	Moderní škola
Název školy	Soukromá střední škola podnikání a managementu, o.p.s.
Předmět	Anglický jazyk
Téma	Christmas
Ročník	3.
Jméno autora	Mgr. Kateřina Trnečková
Anotace	Žák v anglickém jazyce popíše hlavní rysy vánočních svátků u nás a v anglicky mluvících zemích.
Datum tvorby	3.11. 2012

CHRISTMAS

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Outline of the presentation

- Christmas traditions
- Christmas preparation
- Christmas calendar
- Descriptions of Czech and English Christmas
- Questions for speaking
- Resources



Christmas traditions

- Time, when people celebrate Jesus's birth (Christian traditions)
- In past (before Jesus was born) people celebrated the return of spring (the nights are shorter and shorter)



Christmas preparations

- What do people usually do during the weeks before Christmas?

Decorations of houses

Sending Christmas cards

Buying gifts

Cleaning the house

Baking sweets

Time of advent – advent wreath with four candles



Christmas calendar

24th December	Christmas Eve
25th December	Christmas Day
26th December	Boxing Day
31st December	New Year's Eve
1st January	New Year's Day



Christmas Eve in England

- People are with family or friends – talking, eating sweets and drinking
- During the night Father Christmas (Santa Claus in the USA) gives them presents under the tree and into the stockings which are prepared for him
- People sometimes leave some milk and biscuits for him

Christmas Eve in England

- What does Santa look like?
- How does he come into the house?



Christmas Eve in the Czech Republic

- People decorate the tree, watch fairy-tales on Tv and some fast to see the golden pig
- The most important day of Christmas. People have fried fish (carp) and potato salad for dinner.
- Then they open the gifts (from small Jesus)
- They go to church to midnight mass

Christmas Eve in the Czech Republic

- What does small Jesus look like?
- How does he come into the house?



Christmas day in England

- The most important day, people open (unwrap) gifts
- They have a big typical Christmas dinner – huge turkey with stuffing and vegetables, Christmas pudding,...





Christmas day and Boxing Day in the Czech Republic

- People usually visit their friends and relatives, eat a lot of sweets and drink mulled wine
- Some people go to the mountains where they go skiing or snowboarding



Boxing Day in England

- Why is this day called boxing in England? Do people fight (box)?

In past people went back to work. Their bosses gave them small presents – boxes.



New Year's Eve

- People have parties, drink champagne,...(open sandwiches - chlebíčky, canapés-jednohubky)
- They wait for the midnight – to invite the new year



New Year's Day

- People are usually tired after the long night.
- Politicians (the Queen, presidents) usually make announcements – they sum up what has happened during the year,.. People watch the announcement on Tv.



Questions for speaking

- How do you and your family prepare for Christmas?
- Do you like Christmas shopping?
- When do you usually decorate the Christmas tree?
- How do you spend the days of Christmas?
- Do you go to the parties on New Year's Eve?

Useful vocabulary

- Christmas market
- Christmas carols
- Nativity plays – performances portraying the life of Jesus



Resources

en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Christmas

BRENDLOVÁ, Světla. Reálie anglicky mluvících zemí.
2. vyd. Plzeň: FRAUS, 2000

Pictures:

[http://office.microsoft.com/cs-cz/images/results.aspx?qu=christmas&ex=1#ai:MP900399587|](http://office.microsoft.com/cs-cz/images/results.aspx?qu=christmas&ex=1#ai:MP900399587)

[http://office.microsoft.com/cs-cz/images/results.aspx?qu=santa+claus&ex=1#ai:MP900446409|](http://office.microsoft.com/cs-cz/images/results.aspx?qu=santa+claus&ex=1#ai:MP900446409)

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