



BRITISH HOLIDAYS

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MATCH THE HOLIDAYS WITH THE DATES:

- CHRISTMAS 1st JANUARY
- EASTER 25th DECEMBER
- GUY FAWKES DAY SPRING
- MOTHER'S DAY 1st MAY
- HALLOWEEN 5th NOVEMBER
- MAY DAY 26th MARCH
- VALENTINE'S DAY 31st OCTOBER
- NEW YEAR'S DAY 14th FEBRUARY

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WHAT HOLIDAYS ARE THEY?



VALENTINE'S DAY

- Nowadays this is a holiday of all sweethearts. One of the earliest popular symbols of the day is Cupid, the Roman god of Love, who is represented by the image of a young boy with bow and arrow.



EASTER



It is a church holiday. There is a popular belief that wearing 3 new things on this holiday will bring good luck. Traditionally its parades of people in bright new spring clothes are held on this day. Another custom is decorating eggs.



HALLOWEEN

- It is the day or evening before All Saints' Day. People dress up in costumes and masks over their faces. A favourite custom of the holiday is to make a jack-o'-lantern (the children cut the eyes, nose and mouth in the pumpkin). They light a candle inside the pumpkin to scare their friends.



NEW YEAR DAY



On this day people watch the old year out and the New Year in. One of the traditions of the day is the First Footing. The first man to come into the house is very important. The Englishmen believe that he brings luck. This man (not a woman) must be healthy, young, pretty-looking. He brings presents - bread, a piece of coal or a coin.



CHRISTMAS

It is the most famous holiday in Great Britain. It is the time when all the family gets together round the tree decorated with toys and sweets. They often hang up large stockings for the presents. All families have dinners. They eat traditional dishes - turkey, duck, pudding.



MOTHER'S DAY



- It is the fourth Sunday in Lent. It is customary to visit one's mother on that day. Mother ought to be given a present - tea, flowers or a cake.

MAY DAY

It was an important day in the Middle Ages. In the very early morning, young girls went to the fields and washed their faces with dew. They believed this made them very beautiful for a year after that. Also on this day the young men of each village tried to win prizes with their bows and arrows, and people danced round the maypole. Many English-villages still have a maypole, and on this holiday, the villagers dance round it.



GUY FAWKES DAY

- On the 5th of November in almost every town and village in England one can see fire burning, fireworks, cracking and lighting up the sky, small groups of children pulling round in a homemade cart, a figure that looks something like a man but consists of an old suit of clothes, stuffed with straw.



ИСТОЧНИКИ:

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