



HOLIDAYS


HALLOWEEN, HAPPY NEW YEAR AND MERRY CHRISTMAS

HALLOWEEN

THE MONTH IS
AMBER,
GOLD AND BROWN.
BLUE GHOSTS OF
SMOKE
FLOAT THROUGH
THE TOWN.
GREAT V'S OF
GEESE
HONK OVERHEAD,
AND MAPLES TURN
A FIERY RED.
FROST BITES THE
LAWN,
THE STARS ARE
SLITS
IN A BLACK CAT'S

AT LAST, SMALL
WITCHES,
GOBLINS, HAGS,
AND PIRATES
ARMED
WITH PAPER
BAGS.
THEIR COSTUMES
HINGED
ON SAFETY PINS,
GO HAUNT A
NIGHT
OF PUMPKIN
GRINS.





HALLOWEEN IS AN ANNUAL HOLIDAY OBSERVED ON OCTOBER 31. IT HAS ROOTS IN THE CELTIC FESTIVAL OF SAMHAIN AND THE CHRISTIAN HOLIDAY ALL SAINTS' DAY, BUT IS TODAY LARGELY A SECULAR CELEBRATION.



THE ANCIENT CELTS BELIEVED THAT THE BORDER BETWEEN THIS WORLD AND THE OTHERWORLD BECAME THIN ON THIS DAY, ALLOWING SPIRITS (BOTH HARMLESS AND HARMFUL) TO PASS THROUGH. THE FAMILY'S ANCESTORS WERE HONOURED AND INVITED HOME WHILE HARMFUL SPIRITS WERE WARDED OFF.



NO SUN, NO LIGHT,
NOT EVEN A SPARK,
THE WHOLE WORLD
IS COMPLETELY DARK.
THE CLOCK STRIKES
TWELVE,
YOU HEAR IT CHIME,
NOT ONE SINGLE
PERSON
IS AWAKE AT THIS
TIME.

NO OTHER COLOR
THAN BLACK IS TO
SEE.





HALLOWEEN COSTUMES ARE TRADITIONALLY THOSE OF MONSTERS SUCH AS GHOSTS, SKELETONS, WITCHES, AND DEVILS. THEY ARE SAID TO BE USED TO SCARE OFF DEMONS. COSTUMES ARE ALSO BASED ON THEMES OTHER THAN TRADITIONAL HORROR, SUCH AS THOSE OF CHARACTERS FROM TELEVISION SHOWS, MOVIES, AND OTHER POP CULTURE ICONS.



WITCHES HAVE HAD A LONG HISTORY WITH HALLOWEEN. LEGENDS TELL OF WITCHES GATHERING ON THIS NIGHT, ARRIVING ON BROOMSTICKS, TO CELEBRATE A PARTY HOSTED BY THE DEVIL. SUPERSTITIONS TELL OF WITCHES CASTING SPELLS ON UNSUSPECTING PEOPLE. TRANSFORM THEMSELVES INTO DIFFERENT FORMS. CAUSING OTHER MAGICAL MISCHIEF.



**THE SKY IS DARK,
THE STARS ARE BLUE,
THE WITCHES ARE MAKING
THEIR WITCHES' BREW.**



Happy Halloween




HAPPY NEW YEAR AND MERRY CHRISTMAS

Celebrate Christmas on December 25 began in the fourth century, probably in 336. The Catholic Church was in need of a holiday, which would have eclipsed the rival pagan rituals with her, threatening to the same Christian existence. Despite the fact that the celebration of the birth of man in those days was considered unpopular and even obscene, church leaders decided that since they compete with the Gentiles, then create a similar celebration will be quite appropriate. Although Jesus probably was born in spring or autumn, the Catholics agreed to declare the day Christ was born December 25, as the Romans were pagans celebrated one of their major holidays - the birthday of the sun god - it is in December.


The word Christmas was formed from the words Cristes Maesse or Christ's Mass

In 1924, Washington was bred the first national Christmas tree. They say that the first Christmas tree decorated with candles burning, Martin Luther himself. Since then, the president of the United States every year solemnly lights the Christmas tree lights on this (remember the good old "One, two, three - Christmas tree burn!").





Once Christmas was celebrated for twelve days - exactly as many days have passed since the birth of Christ before baptism. In colonial America at that time it was decided to organize parties and weddings. It is interesting that the New Year while almost did not pay attention. Now "Christmas season" begins right after Halloween and ends with a family dinner on December 25 and the distribution of gifts. Follow-up after Christmas week lost its significance as the most fun and enjoyable week of the year - the majority of Americans, it is only one or two days a week.



Centre of New Year celebrations is Trafalgar Square. It always gathers thousands of people to celebrate the New Year, Christmas tree is installed. As early as 1841 in England, Queen Victoria issued a decree to permit the establishment of the main tree. The last decades of the Christmas tree delivered from Norway as a sign of gratitude for the assistance of Norwegians in the British release of Norway from Nazi occupiers during World War II. After Trafalgar Square each year passes the London New Year's parade, which is considered the world's largest New Year's national march. In this parade uchuvstvuyut more than ten thousand people. Among them are a lot of musicians, dancers, clowns and acrobats. Just during the New Year in London is Chinese parade, which also involved many musicians and dancers. And in Chinatown run big, spectacular fireworks, attracting hundreds of local residents

IN ENGLAND, CALLED SANTA CLAUS. ON NEW YEAR'S DAY FOR CHILDREN IN THE THEATERS MAKE REPRESENTATIONS ON THE SUBJECTS OF THE OLD ENGLISH FAIRY TALES. LORD OF CHAOS LEADS THE NOISY PAGEANT, WHICH INVOLVES FAIRY-TALE CHARACTERS: HOBBY HORSE, MARCH HARE, HUMPTY DUMPTY, PUNCH AND OTHERS. BEFORE GOING TO BED YOUNG ENGLISHMEN PUT ON THE TABLE A PLATE FOR THE GIFTS THEY BRING IN THE NEW YEAR'S EVE SANTA CLAUS, AND THE SHOES ARE PUT HAY IS A TREAT FOR BURRO.



The whole New Year's Eve on the streets selling toys: whistles, tweekers, masks, balloons. In England there was a tradition of exchanging New Year's greeting cards. The first Christmas card was produced in London in 1843.



In this country about the coming New Year heralds the famous bell Big Ben. True beat, he starts a little before 12:00 and it does so quietly at first, because covered with a blanket, and it prevents him from apparel to show their full strength. But at midnight the bell stripped, and they start beating loudly proclaiming the people of the New Year. By the way, according to tradition, before ringing the bell the British open rear doors of houses, and then open the doors to let in the new year. With the fight bell lovers, not to give up next year, after the manner of kissing under the mistletoe branch, which is for the British magical tree. She, in addition to the traditional Christmas tree, decorated with English at home. Bunches of mistletoe everywhere - on lamps, chandeliers and table. Considered to be "for good luck" kiss the person standing in the middle of the room under the mistletoe.



POEMS AND WISHES

New Year is a time for
celebration of love, of life, of
Friendship.

It's the time to thank God for
wonderful friends, and to
bring to their lives as much
magic as they bring to ours...

So here's celebrating our
Friendship and praying that
its magic continues forever.

Happy New Year!



New Year... It's a time to
look back and cherish warm
memories

Of happy times gone by...
It's a time to look ahead,
and dream bright dreams

Of days yet to come...

A special time for
remembering people like
you!

Have a Splending Year!



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