

## Christmas pudding

It is special fruit cake made long time in advance and consisting of many incredible ingredients like beer, suet, carrots, breadcrumbs, etc. Sometimes brandy is poured over it which is called burning brandy. The person that bites into a piece with a coin inside will have good luck.

## Easter

Easter is a **religious** festival commemorating the crucifixion and resurrection of Jesus Christ. Easter is celebrated on the 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after the **first full moon** in spring. People eat **Hot Cross Buns** on Good Friday, which are sweet bread rolls made with spices and dried fruit, and a cross marked on top. Other popular Easter food is roast chicken or **turkey** for lunch on Easter Sunday and a fruit cake covered in marzipan. Children believe that Easter Bunny hides the eggs in the garden. On Easter Monday children look for hidden eggs, which are made of **chocolate**, and chocolate in the garden. This is called **egg hunt**. People wish each other a **happy Easter**.

## SANTA

Santa Claus is the legendary bringer of **gifts** at Christmas. He is generally described as a fat, jolly man with a white **beard**, dressed in a red suit trimmed with white and riding a **sleigh** full of toys drawn through the air by eight **reindeers**. Santa, also called Saint Nicholas enters houses through the **chimney** to leave presents under the Christmas tree and in the **stockings** of all good children. This image of Santa Claus is a North American invention from the 19<sup>th</sup> century which influences the celebration of Christmas throughout the world.

The book / film – **Pocahontas, The Scarlet Letter**

## Halloween

Halloween gets its name from All Hallows' Eve (originally religious holiday). It is the **day** before All Saints Day. People believed that the night of October 31<sup>st</sup> was the night when evil spirits and **witches** would come out and everyone would stay at home with the door **locked** and perform special rituals to keep the spirits away. Nowadays people often have parties on the day when children or young people dress up as ghosts, witches or **goblins**. They carve the inside out of a **pumpkin** or a large turnip and cut a face in it so that when a lit **candle** is put inside, the face shines with a weird flame. These carved pumpkins are called jack-o'-lanterns and decorate the houses. Children in the United States go from house to house in their **costumes**

knocking on **doors** and playing trick-or-treat. The **owner** of the house must either give them a small **present** such as candy, chocolate bars, toffee apples or other confections, or they will play a **trick** on him, for **example** put butter on the doorknob so it is difficult to open the door. There are several traditional **Halloween** foods such as apples, pumpkins, baked potatoes and treacle toffee (caramel). Traditional games include "apple bobbing" where you have to pick **apples** out of a bowl of water with your teeth.

**Anglo-Saxon** - the term is used for the Germanic tribes (the Angles and Saxons from modern Germany, the Jutes from modern Denmark) who invaded and settled the south and east of Britain in the 5<sup>th</sup> century. Their language, Anglo-Saxon or Old English, is a component of the modern English language, which was later expanded and developed through the influence of Old Norse and Norman French.

**crops** - the term refers to plants that are grown on a large scale for food, clothing, and other human uses (dyes, medicine, cosmetics, fuel...). Major crops include sugar cane, pumpkin, maize (corn), wheat, rice, soybeans, hay, potatoes and cotton.

**The American Civil War** was a civil war fought from 1861 to 1865 between the United States (the "Union" or the "North") and several Southern slave states that had declared their separation and formed the Confederate States of America (the "Confederacy" or the "South"). The war had its origin in the issue of slavery. The "South" was defeated after four years, slavery was abolished, and the unity of both sides was restored.

**Pilgrim Fathers / Pilgrims** is a name applied to early settlers of the Plymouth Colony. It was a religious group which fled from England because they sought religious freedom. The group later arranged with English investors to establish a new colony in North America. The colony became the oldest continuously inhabited British settlement in what was to become the United States of America.