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"Vassilopita"

Every year on the 1st of January people in Greece eat "vassilopita". Vassilopita is a sweet bread or cake in which we hide a coin. The person who finds the coin is going to be lucky throughout the year.

But how did this Christmas custom begin? According to the Christian Faith it began in the fourth century with Saint Vassilios who was bishop of Caesarea in Asia Minor. The prefect of the region asked the people for their jewels and valuable belongings in order not to destroy their town. Most of

the people were very poor, but they gave Saint Vassilios everything they had so that he could give it to the prefect. That night



HAPPY NEW YEAR 2020!!

Saint Mercurius and some Angels killed the prefect and his soldiers before they



killed the people. Saint Vassilios wanted to give everything back to their owners, but he didn't remember what belonged to each one. So he asked the priests to bake sweet breads and put a valuable thing in each one and give them to the people. Miraculously, everyone found what they had offered.

This is how we have come to celebrate the first day of the year since then.

Sotiris Havatzoglou (1st Grade)

Special points of interest:

- *What is the best European destination for Christmas? Read p.2*
- *Do you like tennis? Read p.3*
- *Check out our brand new school library! Read p.4*

A small but valuable piece of Christmas advice

You care so much about others' opinion: what they told you, what they did to you, what they think of you, if they like you. But you forget your strength, your beauty,

your worth. Love a little your hurt self and stand up on your feet, my soul. This Christmas be yourself !!!

Fotini Giantsouli.
1st Grade





European Best Destination 2019 by Evita Alexiou 1st Grade



Geographically and culturally, Budapest is the capital of Hungary and borders Western and Eastern Europe. Are you looking for a clean, disciplined, orderly, well-functioning city? Or, rather, an exciting, unpredictable, urban

center with an edge? You will find them both here. Budapest is stunningly pretty, considered by many to be the "Paris of the East", divided by the Danube River in two parts, Buda, the classier and more residential side of the city and Pest, the place to be touristy, hang out and have fun. Budapest is also one of the most culturally important metropolises in Eastern Europe and home to numerous UNESCO World Heritage Sites, with beautiful muse-

ums and several thermal baths. Although it is sizeable, it's easily walkable. Budapest currently has six Michelin-starred restaurants but there are also plenty of lower-priced traditional Hungarian and trendy restaurants, too. Prices are certainly on the rise, much to the frustration of locals, but for foreigners they're still a bargain. When walking around, even at night, you don't need to look over your shoulder. As for cleanliness, plenty of sidewalk trash cans and garbage collectors make Budapest's streets litter-free. I hope I gave you enough information and make you eager to visit this beautiful city!

SOUNION by Chavatzoglou Sotiris 1st Grade

Cape Sounion is the southernmost part of Attica and was an important strategic point. From there, the city-state of Athens controlled the sea passage to the Aegean sea and Piraeus, as well as the peninsula of Lavreotica, with its rich silver mines, thanks to which Athens became a major power in the 5th century. B.C.

In Sounio there is one of the most famous ancient temples in Greece. It is dedicated to Poseidon. The temple that we see today, was built in 444 B.C. In its metope were carved the battle of Centaurs and the Theseus's labours. The cape of Sounio is also known as the place where the king of Athens Aegeas threw himself into the sea according to the

myth. That is the reason the sea is named Aegean.

"That is the reason the sea is named Aegean"

What Happened on Christmas Day, 1977 by Fotini Theodorou 1st Grade

On December 25, 1977, the famous Charlie Chaplin died. The causes of his death were natural. The cause was internal bleeding. Charlie Chaplin was born on April 16, 1889. He was married four times and had eight children. One of



Merry Christmas
mas
EVERYONE!!

them was Jane Chaplin, who was also an actress. Charlie Chaplin received many awards, one of which was the typical

Nobel Prize in 1972.

Look up to the sky
You'll never find
rainbows
If you're looking
down.

Charlie Chaplin
(THE CIRCUS 1929)





Advent Calendar

Christmas in Germany

By Nikoletta
koutroumanou 2nd
Grade

As in many Christian countries, Christmas is the most special time of the year in Germany. Though the most important ingredients of Christmas across the world are the same like festive cheer, family time and delicious food, each country has its own special way of celebrating this magical festival.

St Nicholas day is a favorite holiday for German children. On the night of 5th December children clean and polish their boots and leave them outside the door before going to sleep. Next morning they find their boots filled with nuts, candies and small gifts from St Nicholas. The advent calendar is an important countdown for Christmas. Every day for four weeks preceding Christmas, a window in the advent calendar is opened to reveal a poem, a part of a story, a candy or a small gift. Christmas angels are the most loved Christmas ornaments in Germany. They are put up on Christmas trees and all around the house at Christmas time. They are most commonly made of wood and are often seen playing their musical instruments.

Finally another Christmas tradition in Germany is about Krampus. Krampus the devil, is sort of a sidekick of St Nicholas. He is believed to accompany St Nicholas to teach naughty children a hard lesson. In southern Bavaria, men in hideous Krampus costumes patrol the streets on St Nicholas night and are sometimes invited in by parents of particularly naughty children.



**Christmas market in
Dortmund, Germany**

RELATIONSHIPS

In the past, women stayed at home and did all of the household chores while men went out to work. The father or sons rarely helped, but sometimes the daughters did. However, those days are long gone. Nowadays, women have jobs and successful careers, leaving them little time to deal with the large number of tasks that a household requires. But despite this change, many teenagers believe that their parents, and more particularly their mothers, are the only ones who should pick up, tidy, wash, clean and clear.

It's a sad fact that just when

children are mature enough to really help in the house they become too involved with their school work and other activities to be of much help. They always seem too busy to lend a hand around the house. Even so, teenagers should be careful not to make extra work for others.



What this means is that they should keep their rooms tidy, leave bathrooms clean, pick up after themselves and wash their dishes once in a while. The truth is that no one is too busy to do these simple chores, and anyone claiming otherwise is probably just being lazy. So what happens when parents become sick and tired of their children's excuses?

**VICTORIA CHATZIKIO-
SEGAN 1st Grade
A2'**

Christmas in the Philippines



A parol outside a house

People in the Philippines like to celebrate Christmas for as long as possible! The playing of Christmas carols in shops can start in September! Most Filipinos are Christians with about 80% of people being Catholics. It's the only Asian country with so many Christians. Because of this, Christmas is the most important holiday in the Philippines. They have their own Christmas traditions such as the 'parol' which is a bamboo pole or frame with a lighted star lantern on it. It's traditionally made from bamboo strips and colored Japanese paper or cellophane paper and represents the star that guided the Wise Men. It is the most popular Christmas decoration in the Philippines.

Eliana Metai 2nd Grade



And the greatest gift of all.....**OUR SCHOOL LIBRARY**



Great news!

Finally, our school library is open!!! All students can come here during their breaks or in their free time. We can borrow books to read at home, or we can sit and read in the library. Of course, students can also make their homework here, study for a test, or even search for information on the internet.

Moreover, there are 2 brand new high-tech computers for us to use! Just keep in mind that we have to be quiet in the library and we mustn't eat or drink here!

So, I am really looking forward to using our library! What about you?

Alexia Mastrogriannopoulou,

1st Grade

