

New Year Resolutions

Article 29

Your education should help you develop respect for other people and their cultural beliefs.



twinkl

New Year's Eve

New Year's Eve is celebrated on December 31st, the last day of the calendar year.

People enjoy getting together with family or friends and counting down the hours, minutes and seconds to the start of a brand new year. You might even be allowed to stay up extra late!

In London, Big Ben chimes to tell us when the new year has arrived, then a huge firework display takes place on the banks of the River Thames.



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Welcoming a New Year

You might hear people singing 'Auld Lang Syne' to welcome in the new year. This is a very old poem written by a famous Scottish poet called Robert Burns. What do you think it is about?

Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And never brought to mind?
Should auld acquaintance be forgot,
And auld lang syne.

Chorus

For auld lang syne, my jo,
For auld lang syne,
We'll tak a cup o' kindness yet,
For auld lang syne.

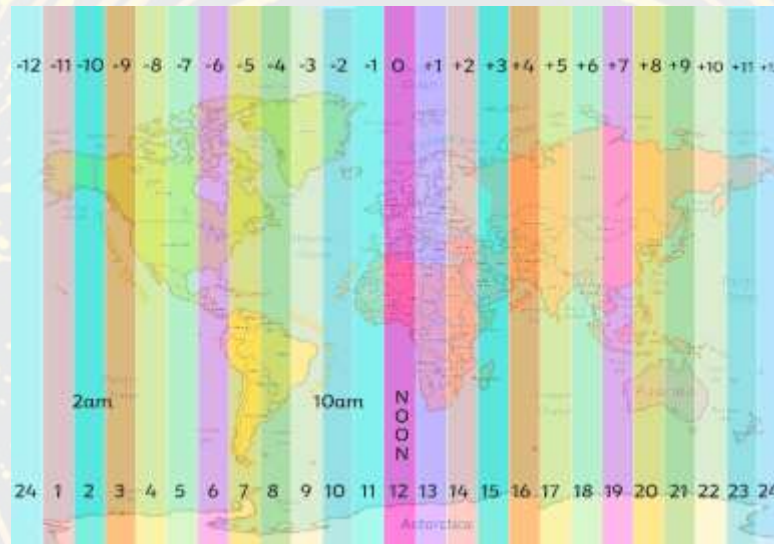


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Different Times to Celebrate

Not every place in the world welcomes in the new year at exactly the same time because different places are in different time zones.

Kiritimati, Christmas Island and Kiribati are some of the first places to celebrate with Honolulu, Hawaii being one of the last.



New Year's Eve

Due to different beliefs, calendars and time zones across the world, not every country celebrates New Year's Eve on the same day or at the same time.

Some calendars are based around religious beliefs, others on the lunar, solar or lunisolar cycles.



Some countries celebrate New Year's Day on the same date each year. Others don't, having a range of dates it can occur on.

Generally, whenever New Year's Eve does take place, it is accompanied by some sort of celebration, unique to each country.

Food Based Celebrations



Japan

Before midnight strikes on New Year's Eve, the Japanese like to eat soba noodles. This long, rope-like noodle is used to represent the crossing from one year into the next.

It is customary for the Spanish to eat one grape at each strike of the clock at Midnight on New Year's Eve. Eating twelve grapes is thought to bring good luck for each month of the new year.



Spain

Leaping and Dropping

Denmark

The Danish often get ready to wave bye to the year by wearing silly hats or bibs. They also stand on a chair at midnight and leap off it, symbolising the leap into the new year ahead.



USA

In New York, USA, a glowing ball is lowered down a flagpole in Times Square to signal the start of the new year. This tradition has become known as the Ball Drop and has led to many other parts of America following suit.

Other Traditions

South Africa

In Johannesburg, it has become custom to begin the new year with no unwanted items. For this reason many throw their old furniture out the window on New Year's Eve.



Finland

An old tradition in Finland was to melt tin and pour it into a bucket of cold water. The new shape it took on would be interpreted to predict the fortune for the following year.

Fireworks

One of the most popular ways to celebrate New Year's Eve is with fireworks. These displays take place all across the world.

There are many impressive shows in places like Dubai, Sydney, Paris and New York.



New York



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China



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Australia



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London



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Hawaii



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Making a New Year Resolution

New Year's Day is on January 1st and is often seen as a fresh start.

Many people like to make new year resolutions which are personal goals that they aim to work on throughout the year.

Anyone can make a new year resolution and some make more than one!

Some examples: Getting homework in on time, keeping your bedroom tidy, doing more exercise or eating more healthily.

Have you made any? What are they?



School Reflection

This is our school,
Let peace dwell here,

Let the rooms be full of contentment.

Let love abide here,
Love of one another,
Love of mankind,
Love of life itself.

Let us remember

That as many hands build a house,
So many hearts make a school

Help us to learn, play and share together.

We hope our school will be a place of great discovery, adventure and creativity.

May it be a place where we love to learn and where we learn to love,

A place where everyone is respected, and all are deeply valued.