



Hi Kids! In this issue you can learn about some holiday traditions that might be different from yours. If you would like to share some special traditions that your family has, please write, draw, or send photos to bittybulls@turnbullclan.com We will include your submission in the next issue!



Hogmanay

Did you know that in Scotland holiday celebrations take place around the New Year rather than on Christmas? The Church of Scotland discouraged Christmas celebrations for about 400 years. Until the 1950's most people worked on Christmas day. Family and friends gathered over the New Year to exchange presents. Some of the traditions include cleaning your house on December 31st, singing **Auld Lang Syne** (by Scottish poet Robert Burns) at midnight, welcoming friends and families into your home, and celebrating with fireworks. First Footing is a custom in which the first person to visit or set foot in a friend's home after midnight gives gifts of salt, coal, shortbread, whisky, and black bun (fruit cake) to bring good luck to the home in the coming year. Delicious holiday food such as shortbread, black bun, and cloutie dumpling (fruit pudding with custard) are enjoyed. Much older traditions included dressing up in cattle hides and running through villages hitting one another with sticks.



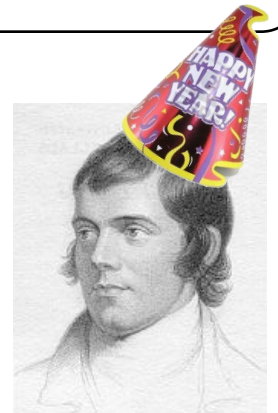
Auld Lang Syne

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot and never
brought to mind?*

*Should auld acquaintance be forgot and auld
lang syne,*

*For auld lang syne, my dear, for auld lang syne,
We'll take a cup o' kindness yet, for auld lang
syne.*

**auld lang syne--old long-ago / old times*



Robert Burns, national poet of Scotland
January 25, 1759-July 21, 1796

Wee Bit O' Fun

Holiday Greetings Around the World

England	Merry Christmas
France	Joyeux Noel
Germany	Froehliche Weihnachten
Scotland	Merry Christmas an a Guid Hogmanay
Ireland	Nollaig Shona Dhuit
Italy	Buon Natale
Poland	Wesolych Swiat
Spain	Feliz Navidad
Sweden	God Jul



Holiday Jollies

Where does a snowman keep his money?

in a snow bank

How do sheep in Mexico say Merry Christmas?

Fleece Navidad

What do you call people who are afraid of Santa Claus?

Claustrophobic

How is a grape like a reindeer?

they are both purple, except the reindeer

How long should an elf's legs be?

just long enough to touch the ground!

Christmas

How many new words can you make by rearranging or using some of the letters in the word Christmas?

Example: mast _____ stars _____ mist _____



Shortcut Scottish Pudding

This recipe is similar to Cloutie Dumpling. Ask an adult to help you make this recipe. Enjoy a tasty holiday treat in less than 20 minutes!

Ingredients:

- 1 cup water
- 3/4 cup white sugar
- 1 tablespoon mixed spice or pumpkin pie spice
- 1 tablespoon cinnamon
- 1 1/4 cups chopped mixed dried fruit
- 1 1/4 cups golden raisins
- 1 cup margarine
- 2 cups all purpose flour
- 1 teaspoon baking soda
- 2 eggs, beaten

Directions:

1. Combine water, sugar, spice, cinnamon, mixed fruit, raisins, and margarine in a saucepan.
2. Bring to a boil and simmer for one minute.
3. Remove from heat and stir in flour, baking soda and eggs.
4. Pour into a microwave safe bowl and leave uncovered.
5. Cook in microwave for 10 minutes on full power.
6. Let stand for 5 minutes.
7. Serve warm with your favorite custard, ice cream, whipped cream, or American pudding.

Please note: you may want to use less spice than what recipe calls for

Serves: 8 people

New Years Crackers

Many families enjoy popping open crackers to see what goodies and treats are inside. Now you can make some of your own for your family celebration. They can even be decorated with names and used instead of place cards at your Christmas table.

Here's what you'll need

- Toilet paper roll (one for each cracker)
- Tissue paper
- Ribbon or yarn
- Stickers or other embellishments from around the house
- Tape
- Scissors
- Something to put inside the cracker like a small trinket or special note

Here's how you make them...

1. Put a small trinket or special note inside your TP roll. Cut the tissue paper so that you'll have lots of excess on either end of the TP roll. We used 2 colors of tissue paper just to make the ends more colorful!



3. Gather your tissue paper at either end of the toilet paper roll and tie a ribbon or piece of yarn around (if you don't have either tape will do just fine). Cut the tissue paper ends into fringe.



2. Roll the tissue paper around the TP roll. Tape to secure.



4. Decorate your crackers with stickers or any other embellishments you have in your craft box; like sequins, scraps of felt, glitter glue, etc.



If you don't have any trinkets try leaving special personalized notes in each cracker - your guests will love it!

For additional fun, please visit: <http://www.busybeekidscrafts.com/New-Years-Crackers.html>