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CIES Noel News

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International Dinner on Friday

Fun Events on Friday and Saturday

Three times a year we have an international dinner here at CIES. This is one of our very favorite traditions, and it is a wonderful event for everyone. This is a potluck which will feature different types of **cuisine** from around the world. Some of the teachers will also bring traditional American food.

We will all be gathering at **6pm on Friday December 2nd downstairs at CIES**. This will be an opportunity for you (and your entire family) to eat, socialize, and say goodbye to those who are leaving. Each student who is leaving will be recognized with a certificate, and the winners of the CIES VOICES writing competition will also be announced!

Although we will be celebrating for several hours, it is important to get there on time. If you arrive late, people will not be able to try your food. There will also be lots of dancing!

Follow us Forever on Facebook

Many of you will be leaving CIES after this session, but we want you to keep following CIES on your Facebook account. There will be many exciting events happening throughout 2017. Even though you may not be here with us, you can still **stay in the loop** about events going on here. There will also be videos and publications made available on our Facebook page as well as the CIES homepage.



Saying Goodbye...

Many of you are very excited about the end of the session. After this week, you will be able to go home or maybe have an opportunity to travel to different parts of America. However, before you leave, here are a few things you may want to do.

Make a point to say goodbye to all of your teachers. Most of you have formed very special bonds with your teachers, and it is a great thing to offer your teachers one final goodbye. Remember, teachers may be able to write recommendations or give you advice in the future, so it is a good idea to remember them. 😊



Try to stay in touch with your friends from all over the world. Many of you may get the opportunity to travel in the future, and knowing people in different places might give you people that can be your tour guides or show you a local perspective on their countries. It's exciting when we get to show off our country to other people!

For those of you staying in the United States, try to come back and see us. One of the most exciting things is when old students come back and visit their teachers and friends at CIES. CIES is open 51

weeks a year, and we would love to see you all again.

Jingle Bell Run reminder

Our final CIES event for 2016 will be the Jingle Bell Run on Saturday evening. Here are a few important things to remember:

- 1 – Please have your money to Jen Dickinson by Wednesday.
- 2 – If you still need to pick up your packets for the Jingle Bell Run, you can do that at the Capital City Bank on Monroe Street until 5:30pm on Saturday.
- 3 – The CIES group will meet at CIES on Saturday at 5pm, and we will then walk over together.
- 4 – Try not to bring bags or anything heavy. There is no place to leave your bags, so anything that you bring you will have to carry the entire race.
- 5 – After the race, there will be a winter festival! This is a wonderful opportunity to try new food, listen to music, and enjoy winter in Tallahassee. It is a fun event for the family because kids always have a lot of fun at the winter festival. There will also be a special parade at 7pm.

Notes from the office

- Remember that class begins on January 9. CIES starts taking attendance on that date.
- If you are leaving CIES and returning in January, don't forget to see Lacey so

she can sign your I-20 before you go home for the holidays.

- If your email address has changed, please update your email address on myCIES. This will help you make sure you receive all important emails from us!

Lots of Birthdays

Since this is the last issue of Nole News in 2016, here are all of you who celebrate a birthday in December. Happy (early) Birthday!

Ahmad Ali (November 30)

Chandler Bridwell (December 3)

Thu Le (December 3)

Mohammad Rahman (December 10)

Haneah El Hawsawi (December 14)

Agbatan Judicaël Agribo (December 17)

Yanfei Yang (December 20)

Nasser Alajmi (December 21)

Dr. Jennifer Grill (December 21)

Sana McHarek (December 22)

Soongyu Kim (December 23)

Sarah Alzuwaidi (December 24)

Vlada Filippova (December 25)

Felicia Ciappetta (December 26)

Meimouna El Moustapha (December 29)

Peggy Gary (December 31)

Culture Question

Question: In my country they don't celebrate Christmas. What is important about Christmas?

Christmas is celebrated in a majority of the world's countries (over 160). In most of these

countries, Christmas is an official holiday and is often the center of an entire holiday season. For those of you who are less familiar with Christmas, here are some things to know.

* Christmas is a holiday where Christians celebrate the birth of Jesus. The Bible tells a detailed story of Jesus's birth, and many Christians will tell these stories as a part of their holiday traditions. The Bible says that Jesus was born not as a rich man, but he was born to a poor family in a stable surrounded by animals.

** For Christians, Christmas is most importantly a religious holiday. For many other people who are not religious, Christmas has a more **secular** meaning. Christmas is seen as a time to celebrate with family and give gifts to show your love and appreciation – especially to children. There are many special stories related to Christmas. One is 'Frosty the Snowman' and another is 'Rudolph the Red-nosed Reindeer.' There is another story called "The Grinch who Stole Christmas" which tells the story of a mean monster who gets angry and tries to steal everyone's Christmas things. These are not religious stories, but they are popular with almost all Americans (whether religious or not religious).

In many Southern hemisphere countries (Australia, South Africa, New Zealand), Christmas marks the beginning of summer, so there is usually a very long Christmas holiday period that lasts several weeks and includes outdoor activities, going to the beach, and celebrating both Christmas and New Years with family members

Language Question

Question: How can I remember whether to use 'to' or 'for'?

Answer: Sometimes these prepositions can be confusing. Here are a few things to remember to help make these prepositions easier.

TO: You use this preposition when something is being moved from one place to another. You can also use this word when there is a transfer happening. TO is used to express **direction**.

FOR: You use this when someone or something benefits another. It is important that you also use this preposition to show the purpose or **reason why** something is happening. You often use this preposition for an amount of money.

Look at these sentences and decide which preposition to use:

1 – Be sure to buckle up your seatbelt **for/to** your safety.

2 – We went from our house **for/to** the party.

3 – He sold his car to his brother **for/to** \$5000.

4 – I'm doing **for/to** you, so you can do well on your test.



Center for Intensive English Studies

634 West Call Street

Tallahassee, FL 32306-1127

Phone: (850) 644-4797

Fax: (850) 644-7417

Email: cies@admin.fsu.edu

www.cies.fsu.edu

www.facebook.com/CIES.FSU

Nole News Editor: Andrew Wilson

This week's vocabulary:

cuisine (noun) – a specific type of food (examples: Italian, French, Mediterranean)

to stay in the loop (idiom/verb) – to know what is going on; to know what is current

secular (adjective) – describing something not religious