

CIES Nole News

The Weekly Publication for the FSU Center for Intensive English Studies



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International Dinner

Food from America & around the globe

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. Many of the teachers will be bringing food that is popular during American Thanksgiving.

We will all be gathering at **6pm on Friday December 4th here in the CIES courtyard**. 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 have already eaten and may not have the opportunity to try your food.

Follow us forever

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 2016. Even though you may not be here with us, you can still **stay in the loop** about events going on here at Hecht House. There will also be videos and publications made available on our Facebook page as well.



Happy Birthday

Raiyan Almobarak (November 26)
 Ibrahim Alamir (November 27)
 Faisal Alsaif (November 29)
 Maram Alshahrani (November 30)
 Thu Le (December 3)
 Rashed Almutairi (December 4)
 Marie "Judicael" Sampougdou (December 8)
 Jennifer Grill (December 21)
 Sana Mcharek (December 22)
 Hamoud Alotaibi (December 24)
 Sarah Alzuwaidi (December 24)
 Felicia Ciappetta (December 26)
 Debbie Carretta (December 30)
 Peggy Gary (December 31)

Culture Lesson

Rather than a culture question this week, we are going to share some cultural information 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 about Christmas, here are some things to know.

* Christmas is a holiday where Christians celebrate the birthday 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 lasting several weeks that includes outdoor activities, going to the beach, and celebrating both Christmas and New Years with family members.

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