

# Merry Christmas



# Santa Claus

- ❑ **Santa Claus**, also known as **Saint Nicholas**, **Father Christmas**, **Kris Kringle**, or simply "**Santa**", is an old man who, in many brings gifts to the homes of the good children during the late evening and overnight hours of Christmas Eve, December 24.







- Santa Claus is generally depicted as a plump, jolly, white-bearded man wearing a red coat with white collar and cuffs, white-cuffed red trousers, and black leather belt and boots .
- Santa Claus lives at the NORTH POLE, with a large number of magical elves, and nine (originally eight) flying reindeer.



# Fruitcake

- Fruitcake is for many families the giving and receiving of a favorite, though often ridiculed, traditional food. Fruitcake is considered to be a part of many families' Christmas traditions just as important as having a Christmas tree.



# Christmas lights

- Christmas lights at one time were candles, chosen because their twinkling appearance reminded families of the twinkling of moon light through the branches of fir trees in the forest. Despite the safety precautions taken by these early Christmas light users, mixing live flame with highly flammable Christmas trees resulted in a very dangerous situation and many fires resulted.





# Christmas Stockings

- Christmas Stockings  
Many families will hang large brightly colored Christmas stockings over the fireplace or on the walls of their homes during Christmastime in the hopes that Santa Claus will fill them with toys, treats, and goodies. In fact, families have been hanging stockings for as long as there have been stockings!



# History of the Christmas Tree

- The tradition of having an evergreen tree become a symbol of Christmas goes back past recorded written history.
- The Druids in ancient England & Gaul and the Romans in Europe both used evergreen branches to decorate their homes and public buildings to celebrate the Winter Solstice. Over the years, these traditions were adopted by Christians, who incorporated them as part of their Christmas holiday celebration.





# Christmas Gifting



- The idea of presenting people you love with gifts is as old as the human race. The idea of exchanging gifts at Christmas time originated with the birth of Jesus, when three wise men traveled to deliver gifts of gold, frankincense, and myrrh to the newborn baby. Shepherds in the fields also came to give gifts to the newborn baby Jesus.



# The Candy Canes of Christmas



Candy cane sweet treats made primarily from boiled sugar seem to have first appeared in Europe in the late 1600's to early 1700's. They were made in many different colors (most often white) and shapes (most often straight sticks), evolving to the familiar cane or upside down J shape with the red and white stripes in the early 1900's.



■ THANK YOU VERY MUCH

