

XMAS



FESTIVAL

eTwinning project



This book was created within the Xmas FESTIVAL project on eTwinning. The public link to the project's

TwinSpace is: <http://new-twinspace.etwinning.net/web/p61068>

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About the project

The project is based on Christmas songs and carols. We will sing carols in English, record our performances and then vote for the best one. We will also learn about Christmas traditions all over Europe.

Subjects:

Art, Cross Curricular, Foreign Languages, Informatics / ICT, Music, Primary School Subjects

Languages: EN

Pupil's age: 7 - 10

Tools to be used: Chat, e-mail, MP3, Other software (Powerpoint, video, pictures and drawings), Project Diary, Twinspace, Web publishing

Aims:

- Teaching young students a lot of English songs.
- Broadening students' vocabulary range and practising their language competence and fluency
- Learning about the customs of English speaking countries through carols
- Learning new vocabulary and practice speaking and intonation
- Learning about other cultures and comparing it with own culture
- Celebrating Christmas through collaborative activities
- Communicating in English
- Using authentic materials and language in the classroom

Work process:

Teachers and students working on the project will send presentations of their country, school and themselves. Then they will choose 3-4 carols or Christmas songs in English. Teachers will teach them to their students (lyrics and melody). Students and teachers will prepare drawings or PPT presentations to their songs. Then teacher will record students performing carols / Christmas songs in English and send the videos to TwinSpace. Additionally students will record "Silent night" carol in their national languages also uploading it together with lyrics. We will also create International songbook with carols in English illustrated by children and PPT presentation of it. Finally partners will vote (give points) to their favourite songs recorded by

their partners and we will choose the best carol/ Christmas song and best performance. In the end, all of the participants will receive a New Year card and a thank you certificate.

- **October** - getting to know each other (PPT presentations about my school, about us, about Christmas in our countries)
- **November** - choosing songs, uploading lyrics / MP3s / learning carols / Xmas songs •
- **December** - uploading recorded performances, decorating the Christmas trees, taking photos, making ornaments, preparing for the school performance
- **January** - voting for the best performance (all participants receive a thank you certificate or New Year card by post)
- **Optional:** Teachers upload teaching materials and other resources connected to the project.

Children will get knowledge about Christmas traditions around Europe and learn English carols. They will acquire new vocabulary, practice pronunciation and fluency. They will feel the unity with friends from other European countries in mutual cooperation. Children will produce a mutual songbook and PPT with final works. Teachers will develop a bank of teaching resources for Christmas theme and cooperate with other teachers in their school.

XMAS TRADITIONS IN EUROPE

CHRISTMAS IN POLAND

Have a look at Christmas traditions through the eyes of Polish students (Czestochowa):

Christmas in Poland



*In Poland Santa Claus comes on 6th December.
Children send letters to Santa Claus.
He brings presents and puts them under the pillow.*

*We decorate the Christmas tree.
We hang lights, paper angels,
stars, tinsel and glass balls on it.*



On Christmas Eve children wait for the first star.



We share the holy wafer.



Then we sit at the table.

We eat Christmas Eve supper.

*Traditionally there are 12 dishes
(fish, mashroom soup, poppyseed cake etc.)*



We leave an additional plate for an unexpected guest.

*We buy presents and put them
under the Christmas tree.*

Children believe that an Angel brings presents.



We sing carols and Christmas songs.

*At midnight many people go to church.
We have a special mass, "Pasterka" (Shepherds' Mass).*



*On Christmas Day (25th December) we stay at home with our families
or we visit our friends and relatives.*



*On 31st December we celebrate New Year's Eve.
We have parties and balls.
We watch fireworks*



*Christmas time finishes on 6th January - it's Epiphany Day.
Three Kings come to Jesus and bring Him their gifts:
myrrh, gold and frankincense.*

Prepared by Krzysztof and Mariusz

In Poland we have an Advent time (Advent is a Latin word meaning "waiting / preparing" (for Jesus' birth) or "coming". There are special Masses at churches called "Roraty". They are held either early in the morning or in the evening when it's already dark. Children come to church with special lanterns.



There are also wreaths with 4 candles (one for each of 4 Advent Sundays) in churches and some houses.



And on 6th December Santa Claus comes to Polish children (and not only) Traditionally He comes at night and puts the presents under a pillow. He brings the presents that children asked for in their letters (written several days before and left on a window sill:) So in Poland we are now waiting for St Nicholas' Day and we all try to be very good and behave well. 😊



Polish Christmas Dishes

POLISH CHRISTMAS DISHES



Some Christmas dishes are common to every family in Poland but some are specific only to certain Polish regions. The traditional Christmas Eve supper in Poland consists of 12 dishes. Among them the most popular are:

fish (usually carp or herring)



mushroom soup with noodles



barszcz (beetroot soup) with uszka (small dumplings)



pierogi - dumplings filled with forest mushrooms or sauerkraut



Kompot - traditional light, refreshing drink made of dried or fresh fruit boiled in water with sugar and left to cool and infuse



poppy seed cake



kutia (containing poppy seeds, honey, walnuts, currants, figs and dates)



CHRISTMAS IN ROMANIA

Carols form an important part of the Romanian folklore. Romanian carols are not simple songs (a sort of invocation in verse sung by children and lads, on the evening of Winters Holidays) with religious origin, but wide windows through which we are allowed once in a year to go by the immaculate snow-towards the evergreen Heaven and to eye-touch God at least for an instant, in order to give us the power to surpass the life's obstacles. Carols put people in the mood for a perfect communion with the simple and healing greatness of Jesus' Birth. The carol singers walk in the streets of the villages and towns holding in their hands a star made of board and paper with biblical scenes painted in water colors and they sing:

"Do you receive the pretty star,
Pretty and so very bright?
It Haseko we did in the sky
Just like God thought it would be right,
Stand it could be seen on high,
Just like we did in the sky"

On the first Christmas day, children walk in the streets of snow covered towns and villages, when holding in their hands a star made of board and paper with a biblical scene painted in water colors or an icon showing Virgin Mary and baby Jesus, they sing somewhat of a question:

"Do you receive the pretty star,
Pretty and so bright?
It has appeared on the earth
Just like God thought it would be right
And it could be seen on high,
Just like we did, in the sky."

Five days before Christmas with a very sharp knife the pig is cut. This custom is called "Ignatius" from Saint Ignatius (celebrated on December the 20th). Straws are put in his snout and then it is covered with burning straws and then it is singed. The pig is nicely washed and

covered with a piece of cloth for ten minutes. The housewife comes and incense the pig and then the husband comes and makes the sign of the cross on the pig's head saying to the family gathered around: "Let's eat the pig!" After the pig is cut there is a feast called the pig's funeral feast or alms. At the feast the whole family friends and neighbors take part. All eat the rid or the skin of the bacon and they also eat small pieces of fried pork they drink wine or plum brandy.

Carols trail

In Romanian it's called "Colindat"

The carols trail, happening on Christmas Eve, represents the beginning of the twelve Christmas holidays. Moreover, you'll find the caroling tradition on each of these twelve Christmas holidays because it's the best-known Christmas tradition.

As a matter of fact, to have a caroling we need a band (at least 2-3 people), which goes from house to house and sing Christmas carols. But every Romanian Christmas custom has a band who goes from house to house. And they generally sing at least a Christmas carol. So, caroling becomes a generic name for every Christmas custom: Dubasii, Steaua, Sorcova.



And when we go to our relatives and friends to sing a Christmas carol, this is also a caroling. It starts on Christmas Eve and goes on till the Epiphany Day.

All people participate. Boys and men form bands who start carols trails. Each band has a head and its own meeting place. Girls, women and old men wait for them to come and sing. Each person has his/her own role in the village scenery.

The gift given to the carollers is the knot-shaped bread, being itself a sign of wealth and abundance. They can also receive apples and nuts and traditional Christmas food.

Nowadays, all the people wander the cities gathered in groups of Christmas "singers" calling on their relatives and friends. Even the women. This is, because of the lack of real traditions, we need to feel the Romanian Christmas spirit somehow.

The Romanian Christmas customs are all full of joy and optimism, from which the caroling represents the light that springs from the Romanian people souls, casting a lyrical, fairy-tale light on the entire winter scenery.



Bear Custom * Ursul

This custom is known only in Moldavia, a part of Romania, on the Christmas Eve. In this case a young person dresses up in a bear costume adorned with red tassels on its ears, on his head and shoulders. The person wearing the bear costume is accompanied by fiddlers and followed by a whole procession of characters, among them a child dressed-up as the bear's cub. Inspired by the crowd's singing: "Dance well, you old bear, And I'll give you bread and olives", the bear grumbles and imitates the steps of the bear, striking strongly against the earth with the soles of its feet to the sound of drums and pipes.

The Star Carol * Steaua

Children make a star using colored paper and then they put in its middle an icon of Jesus. Many of children decorate their star using shiny tinsel. The "Star Carol" is a tradition during the 3 days of Romanian Christmas. While holding the star in the hands the children sing: "The star

has appeared on high, Like a big secret in the sky, The star is bright, May all your wishes turn out right..."

Or traditions in Carpathian country

In Romania, Christmas is known as *Craciun* and Santa Claus is called *Mos Craciun*. Christmas in Romania has retained all its religious and folk traditions. Red, black and white are the colors associated with the traditional Romanian folk costume. Black represents the winter night, which falls very early in December, red is for the finery of the children who go caroling through the streets on Christmas eve, and white is for the snow that blankets the country, sparkling under the stars for as far as the eye can see.

The Christmas tree is decorated on Christmas Eve about 10 o'clock with walnuts, chestnuts, hazelnuts, candies, apples and chocolates wrapped in colored paper.

Then the children set out through their neighborhood or village, caroling from house to house. As they go from door to door, the "colindatori" are given traditional treats in return: "covrigi" (large dry pretzels), doughnuts, candies, apples and money.

After Midnight Mass, children clean and polish their best pair of boots and place them at the front door for Santa Claus to find. It's there that he'll leave presents for the youngest children who have already gone to bed.

Christmas is also the time for pork butchering on every Romanian farm. Slaughtered on St. Ignatius' day, a few days before Christmas, the pig is meticulously transformed into smoked ham, sausages and charcuterie products.

The traditional Christmas meal

First courses

"Racituri" or "piftie," jellied headcheese, consisting of the pig's feet, ears and head in aspic, accompanied by a grated horseradish and beet salad marinated in vinegar, water and sugar.

Fresh pork sausages, either grilled or fried, garnished with "muraturi" (cucumber pickles),

as well as hot peppers and green tomato pickles.

Various traditional charcuterie products are served: "toba," pork intestine stuffed with meat jelly, liver and rind; "caltabos," a kind of blood sausage; "babic" and "ghiudem," varieties of sausage, very dry and highly spiced, made from goat, mutton or beef.

Beef salad - steamed or boiled vegetables: carrots, celery, potatoes, peas and pickled vegetables (cucumbers, tomato peppers and green tomatoes), all finely chopped and combined with olives and strips of cooked beef and bound with mayonnaise.

Main dishes

"Ciorba de perisoare" - a slightly sour vegetable soup made with fermented bran and pork meatballs.

"Sarmale" - Romanians' best-loved traditional dish - sour cabbage leaves stuffed with ground pork and served with polenta.



Roast pork - garnished with pickled vegetables or mixed salads.

Desserts

The traditional Christmas dessert is called "cozonac." This rich fruit bread requires a long preparation time that begins early on the morning of Christmas Eve. Usually while the men are outdoors butchering the pig, the women stay in the kitchen to make the cozonac.

Since it takes so long to make, cozonac is made in huge quantities. It has to feed the

entire family throughout the week of Christmas. "For 5 kg of flour, 30 eggs are used and 3 kg of white sugar. Kneading the dough lasts at least two hours."

The filling is made up of ground walnuts, egg yolks, raisins, vanilla, rum and no less than 2 kg of sugar! In well-to-do homes, cozonac replaces bread at every meal, served with both savory and sweet dishes. This may seem a very rich diet... but keep in mind that the holidays have been preceded by one to five weeks of fasting. What's more, the temperature in Romania at Christmas can easily dip to -15° C, so the extra calories are required!

When it comes to sweets, cheesecake is the dessert traditionally associated with religious holidays in Romania. Every region has its own version.

In some regions "grau fiert" is served: sweetened boiled wheat garnished with nuts and various flavorings.

Traditional beverages

Tuica or palinca - very strong eau-de-vie, usually made from plums Wines - mostly reds, depending on the region

CHRISTMAS IN CROATIA

Christmas time starts with Advent, the season of preparing for Jesus's birth. Advent lasts for four weeks and every household usually lights the candles on their Advent wreath on the table. Each candle is lit on Sunday. Each year you can buy or make a new Advent wreath and in recent year they have become very modern, so no longer it must be a wreath.



Croatian word Christmas is actually its miniature word of God, is taken as the name of the holiday season, and shows that on this day God is born - Jesus.

On Christmas Eve, the day before Christmas, the family decorates the Christmas tree, usually a pine.



Under the tree we usually put the manger and some young wheat plants for good luck. We seed the wheat on the feast of Lucija (13th December) so it can grow green on Christmas Eve. The seeding of wheat, which in Catholic symbolism, represents life, invokes God's blessing on the family, the coming year and crops.



The whole family is together and goes to the Midnight Mass where they pray for the baby Jesus.



Christmas is the day when we celebrate Jesus' birth, we are all together and lunch, open gifts and we are happy.

Croatian Christmas traditions in the past

In the past, a man in the family would bring hay in the house and put it under the table for children to play. The ornaments on the Christmas tree were red apples and candles. Also, people decorated the house with the Christmas wreath and mistletoe.

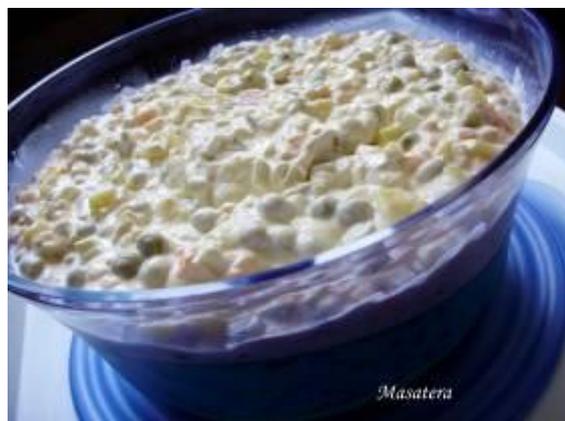


For Christmas we open the presents and celebrate together. In the morning we go to church. In the church we celebrate Jesus and see the manger.

Christmas food in Croatia

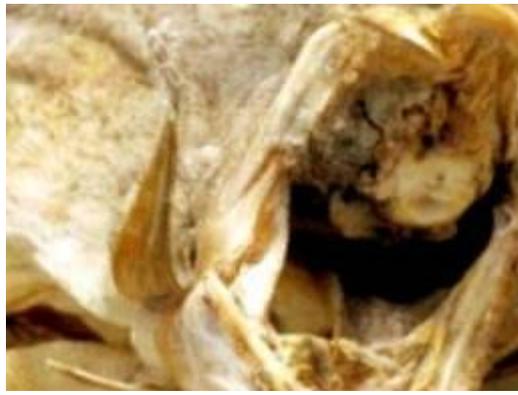
For Christmas we prepare:

French salad – a homemade salad made of cooked small pieces of carrots, potatoes, pickles, peas and eggs, covered with a lot of mayonaise, a little bit of mustard, cream and spiced with salt. It is everyone's favourite festive salad.



For appetizers, there is always some ham, pepperoni, cheese and bread.

The day before Christmas Catholics don't eat meat, so people usually prepare fish, especially cod fish, but some also make squids or other sea fish.



The main meal for Christmas is very festive and special. We usually prepare turkey with special traditional pasta called „mlinci“. This pasta is then boiled for a short time in the water and spiced with the sauce from the turkey when it was baked.



For desserts, there are many kinds of traditional cakes, cookies or pastries. The most popular is walnut cake or poppy seed cake.



The cookies in the shape of stars, that a lot of people make are called „Linzers“ and they have jam inside. People also like regular chocolate cookies.



In south of Croatia, people prepare sweet small doughnuts with dried fruit called „fritule“.



CHRISTMAS IN ITALY

ON CHRISTMAS EVE WE HAVE
A BEAUTIFUL DINNER WITH
FAMILY AND RELATIVES.



TABLES ARE BEAUTIFUL AND
SMART



DURING CHRISTMAS EVE WE
EAT FISH, PUDDING FOR SWEET
AND WE DRINK CHAMPAGNE.



AT MIDNIGHT WE GO TO THE
CHRISTMAS MASS.



HAPPY CHRISTMAS



BUON NATALE

CHRISTMAS IN SLOVAKIA

St. Nicolas day in Slovakia.



...Christmas tree...



... it's all...



CHRISTMAS IN THE UK

Everyone starts getting excited for Christmas early! The shops have Christmas decorations in from November and there are lots of craft fairs around the country where you can start to buy handmade presents.



At home the Christmas trees go up in December and are decorated with pretty ornaments. We have special Christmas calendars which we open each day of December until Christmas day. Inside are special treats.



The day before Christmas (Christmas Eve) many people go to Midnight Mass at their local churches and sing traditional Christmas Songs. After Midnight Mass we come home. Some families open one present that evening, while others wait until Christmas Day. Everybody leaves out a biscuit for Father Christmas and a carrot for his reindeer.



We all hang up a stocking in our homes. If we are lucky on Christmas morning our stockings will have been filled with little gifts. A traditional gift to find at the bottom is chocolate coins and an orange!



Everybody wakes up early Christmas Day! We sit down as a family and take it in turns to give each other presents. At around 3 o'clock we all sit down to have Christmas dinner.

Christmas Dinner

- Christmas dinner is:
- Roast turkey,
- Roast potatoes,
- Carrots,
- Brussel Sprouts,
- Sausages wrapped in bacon,
- Turkey stuffing,
- Gravy

A collage of images showing a roast turkey, roast potatoes, Brussels sprouts, sausages wrapped in bacon, and a cup of gravy.

At the table we have crackers. They are such fun! We pull them with a partner until they go BANG! We hope we are the lucky one who has the half with the prize inside.



Christmas pudding is a traditional desert made with dried fruit. It is covered with brandy, the lights are turned off and it is set on fire! Inside the pudding one lucky person will find two silver coins hidden. This brings them luck for the next year.



After Christmas dinner everyone sits down to watch our Queen give a speech on television.



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XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT 'SILENT NIGHT' STORY

*In 1818, a roving band of actors was performing in towns throughout the Austrian Alps. On December 23 they arrived at **Oberndorf**, a village near Salzburg where they were to re-enact the story of Christ's birth in the small Church of St. Nicholas.*

*Unfortunately, the St. Nicholas' church organ wasn't working and would not be repaired before Christmas. (Note: some versions of the story point to mice as the problem; others say rust was the culprit) Because the church organ was out of commission, the actors presented their Christmas drama in a private home. That Christmas presentation of the events in the first chapters of Matthew and Luke put a priest - **Josef Mohr** in a meditative mood. Instead of walking straight to his house that night, Mohr took a longer way home. The longer path took him up over a hill overlooking the village.*

From that hilltop, Mohr looked down on the peaceful snow-covered village. Reveling in majestic silence of the wintry night, Mohr gazed down at the glowing Christmas-card like scene. His thoughts about the Christmas play he had just seen made him remember a poem he had written a couple of years before. That poem was about the night when angels announced the birth of the long-awaited Messiah to shepherds on a hillside.

Mohr decided those words might make a good carol for his congregation the following evening at their Christmas Eve service. The one problem was that he didn't have any music to which that poem could be sung. So, the next day

Mohr went to see the church organist, **Franz Xaver Gruber**. Gruber only had a few hours to come up with a melody which could be sung with a guitar. However, by that evening, Gruber had managed to compose a musical setting for the poem. It no longer mattered to Mohr and Gruber that their church organ was inoperable. They now had a Christmas carol that could be sung without that organ.

On Christmas Eve, the little Oberndorf congregation heard Gruber and Mohr sing their new composition to the accompaniment of Gruber's guitar.

Weeks later, well-known organ builder Karl Mauracher arrived in Oberndorf to fix the organ in St. Nicholas church. When Mauracher finished, he stepped back to let Gruber test the instrument. When Gruber sat down, his fingers began playing the simple melody he had written for Mohr's Christmas poem. Deeply impressed, Mauracher took copies of the music and words of "Silent Night" back to his own Alpine village, Kapping. There, two well-known families of singers — the Rainers and the Strassers — heard it. Captivated by "Silent Night," both groups put the new song into their Christmas season repertoire.

The Strasser sisters spread the carol across northern Europe. In 1834, they performed "Silent Night" for King Frederick William IV of Prussia, and he then ordered his cathedral choir to sing it every Christmas Eve.

Twenty years after "Silent Night" was written, the Rainers brought the song to the United States, singing it (in German) at the Alexander Hamilton Monument located outside New York City's Trinity Church.

In 1863, nearly fifty years after being first sung in German, "Silent Night" was translated into English (by either Jane Campbell or John Young). Today the words of "Silent Night" are sung in more than 300 different languages around the world.



XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT

*Original al
Silent Night lyrics
in German*

Stille Nacht

Stille Nacht! Heilige Nacht!
Alles schläft; einsam wacht
Nur das traute hoch heilige Paar.
Holder Knabe im lockigen Haar,
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!
Schlaf in himmlischer Ruh!

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XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT
English Silent Night lyrics



Silent Night

Silent night, holy night
All is calm, all is bright
Round yon Virgin Mother and Child
Holy Infant so tender and mild
Sleep in heavenly peace
Sleep in heavenly peace.



XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT

Croatian Silent Night lyrics



Tiha noć

Tiha noć, sveta noć
Ponoć je, spava sve
Samo Marija s Josipom bdi
Divno djetesce pred njima spi
Rajski resi ga mir
Rajski resi ga mir

Tiha noć, sveta noć
Pjesma ta anđeoska
Miljem otajnim napunja zrak
Bajna svjetlost rasvjetljuje mrak
Kraj pretvara u raj
Kraj pretvara u raj



XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT
Romanian Silent Night lyrics



Buna seara la mos ajun!"

Buna seara la Mos Ajun!
Si cu bine la Mos Craciun.

Am venit si noi odata
La un an cu sanatate,
Si la anu cand venim
Sanatosi sa va gasim.

Cu paharul
Plin de vin,
Si-n fundul paharului
Floricica Raiului.

La Anul si La Multi Ani!

XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT
Polish Silent Night lyrics



Cicha noc

Cicha noc, święta noc.
Pokój niesie ludziom wszem.
A u żłóbka Matka Święta
czuwa sama uśmiechnięta
nad Dzieciątka snem
nad Dzieciątka snem.

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XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT

Italian Silent Night lyrics



Astro del Ciel, pargol divin,
Mite agnello, Redentor,
Tu che i Vati da lungi sognâr,
Tu che angeliche voci nunziâr,
Luce dona alle menti,
Pace infondi nei cuor.

Astro del Ciel, pargol divin,
Mite agnello, Redentor,
Tu di stirpe regale decor,
Tu virgineo, mistico fior,
Luce dona alle menti,
Pace infondi nei cuor.

Astro del Ciel, pargol divin,
Mite agnello, Redentor,
Tu disceso a scontare l'error,
Tu sol nato a parlare d'amor,
Luce dona alle menti,
Pace infondi nei cuor;
Luce dona alle menti,
Pace infondi nei cuor.

List of the songs in our project

- Jingle Bell Rock
- Christmas Don't Be Late / The Chipmunk Song
- Merry Christmas Everyone
- Jingle Bells
- We Wish You a Merry Christmas
- O, Christmas Tree
- Mary's Boy Child
- Joy to the World
- Happy Birthday, Jesus
- Ding Dong
- Off We Go
- Rocking Around the Christmas Tree

Christmas Songs Songbook

XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT

Croatian choice of Xmas songs and lyrics



Jingle Bell Rock

By Bobby Helms

Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
Jingle bells swing and jingle bells ring
Snowin' and blowin' up bushels of fun
Now the jingle hop has begun

CHORUS: Jingle bell, jingle bell, jingle bell rock
Jingle bells chime in jingle bell time
Dancin' and prancin' in Jingle Bell Square
In the frosty air

What a bright time, it's the right time
To rock the night away
Jingle bell time is a swell time
To go glidin' in a one-horse sleigh

Giddy-up jingle horse, pick up your feet
Jingle around the clock
Mix and a-mingle in the jinglin' feet
That's the jingle bell rock

CHORUS

Giddy-up jingle horse, pick up your feet
Jingle around the clock
Mix and a-mingle in the jinglin' feet
That's the jingle bell
That's the jingle bell
That's the jingle bell rock





XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT

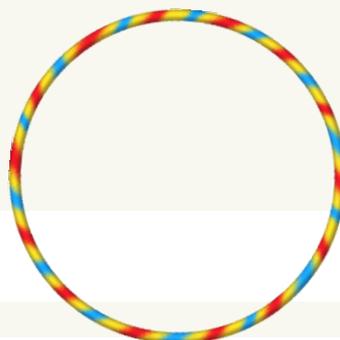
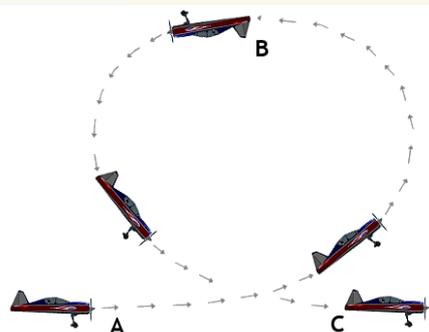
Croatian choice of Xmas songs and lyrics

Christmas don't be late

The Chipmunk Song

Christmas, Christmas time is near
Time for toys and time for cheer
We've been good, but we can't last
Hurry Christmas, hurry fast
Want a plane that loops the loop
Me, I want a hula hoop
We can hardly stand the wait
Please Christmas, don't be late

Want a plane that loops the loop
I still want a hula hoop
We can hardly stand the wait
Please Christmas, don't be late
We can hardly stand the wait
Please Christmas, don't be late



XMAS FESTIVAL PROJECT

Croatian choice of Xmas songs and lyrics

Merry Christmas Everyone

By: Shaking Stevens

1

Snow is falling, all around me,
Children playing, having fun.

It's the season,
For love and understanding,
Merry Christmas everyone.



Time for parties and celebrations,
People dancing all night long,

Time for presents, and exchanging kisses,
Time for singing Christmas songs.



We're gonna have a party tonight,
I'm gonna find that girl underneath the mistletoe,
We'll kiss by candlelight.

Room is swaying, records playing,
All the old songs, we love to hear,
All I wish that everyday was Christmas,
What a nice way to spend the year.



We're gonna have a party tonight...

1

Snow is falling...
Merry christmas everyone...





Jingle Bells



Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh hey!

Dashing through the snow
In a one horse open sleigh
O'er the fields we go
Laughing all the way
Bells on bob tails ring
Making spirits bright
What fun it is to laugh and sing
A sleighing song tonight

Oh, jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh hey!
Jingle bells, jingle bells
Jingle all the way
Oh, what fun it is to ride
In a one horse open sleigh hey!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,

How lovely are your branches!

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,

How lovely are your branches!

In summer sun or winter snow,

a coat of green you always show.

O Christmas tree, O Christmas tree,

How lovely are your branches!



Off We Go!

Off we go,
Let's run to Bethlehem,
We have heard,
Good news for everyone.

Off we go,
We're running all the way,
Christ the Lord,
Was born for us today.

Angels came to us tonight,
What a wonder,
What a sight!

Off we go,
Let's bounce to Bethlehem,
We have heard,
Good news for everyone.

Off we go,
We're bouncing all the way,
Christ the Lord,
Was born for us today.

Angels came to us tonight,
What a wonder,
What a sight!

Off we go,
Let's dance to Bethlehem,
We have heard,
Good news for everyone.

Off we go,
We're dancing all the way,
Christ the Lord,
Was born for us today.

Angels came to us tonight,
What a wonder,
What a sight!

Angels came to us tonight,
What a wonder,
What a sight!

Off we go,
Let's run to Bethlehem,
We have heard,
Good news for everyone!

Rocking Around the Christmas Tree

Rocking around the Christmas Tree
at the Christmas party hop
Mistletoe hung where you can see
Ev'ry couple tries to stop

Rocking around the Christmas Tree
Let the Christmas Spirit ring
Later we'll have some pumpkin pie
and we'll do some caroling

You will get a sentimental feeling When you hear
voices singing
"Let's be jolly; Deck the halls with boughs of holly"

Rocking around the Christmas Tree
Have a happy holiday
Everyone's dancing merrily
In a new old fashioned way



We Wish You a Merry Christmas

We wish you a Merry Christmas;

We wish you a Merry Christmas;

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Good tidings we bring to you and your kin;

Good tidings for Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;

Oh, bring us a figgy pudding;

Oh, bring us a figgy pudding and a cup of good cheer

We won't go until we get some;

We won't go until we get some;

We won't go until we get some, so bring some out here

We wish you a Merry Christmas;

We wish you a Merry Christmas;

We wish you a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.



Mary's Boy Child

Long time ago in Bethlehem so the Holy Bible said
Mary's boy child Jesus Christ was born on Christmas Day.

Hark now hear the angels sing a king was born today
And man will live for evermore because of Christmas Day.
Mary's boy child Jesus Christ was born on Christmas Day.

While shepherds watch their flocks by night,
they see a bright new shining star,
they hear a choir sing a song, the music seemed to come
from afar.

Hark, now hear the angels sing, a king was born today,
And man will live for evermore, because of Christmas Day.



Joy to the World

Joy to the World , the Lord is come!

Let earth receive her King;

Let every heart prepare Him room,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven and nature sing,

And Heaven, and Heaven, and nature sing.



Joy to the World, the Savior reigns!

Let men their songs employ;

While fields and floods, rocks, hills and plains

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat the sounding joy,

Repeat, repeat, the sounding joy.

No more let sins and sorrows grow,

Nor thorns infest the ground;

He comes to make His blessings flow

Far as the curse is found,

Far as the curse is found,

Far as, far as, the curse is found.

Happy Birthday Jesus Lyrics



Happy Birthday To You
happy Birthday To You
happy Birthday Dear Jesus
happy Birthday To You.

Happy Birthday Jesus
I'm So Glad it's Christmas
all The Tinsel And Lights
and The Presents Are Nice
but The Real Gift Is You.

happy Birthday Jesus
I'm So Glad it's Christmas
all The Carols And Bells
make The Holiday Swell
and it's All About You
happy Birthday Jesus
Jesus I Love You!

Web 2.0 tools we used

Name of the tool	description	link
Animoto	photo slideshow and music	http://animoto.com/
Dvolver	animation, storytelling, comics	http://www.dvolver.com/
Glitter Graphics	glitter graphics	http://www.wishafriend.com/glitter/
Kizoa	photo slideshow with animations and music	http://www.kizoa.com/
Micropoll	online polls and analysis	http://www.micropoll.com/
Mixbook	photo slideshow	http://www.mixbook.com/
Photobucket	photos, illustrations, image hosting	http://photobucket.com/
Photocube	3D photo cube	http://www.photocube3d.com/
Scrapblog	photo slideshow and digital scrapbooking and music	http://www.scrapblog.com/
SlideBoom	slide sharing, presentations	http://www.slideboom.com/
SlideShare	slide sharing, presentations	http://www.slideshare.net/
Smilebox	photo slideshow and music	http://www.smilebox.com/
Tripadvisor	presentations, photo slideshow	http://tripwow.tripadvisor.com
Vimeo	video uploading and sharing	http://vimeo.com/
Voicethread	photos, documents plus comments in voice recording or text messages	http://voicethread.com/
Voki	voice recording, text-to-speech, animation	http://www.voki.com/
Wallwisher	post-its, notes	http://www.wallwisher.com/
Widgetbox	widget finder for your website	http://www.widgetbox.com/
Xat	quiz maker	http://www.xat.com/web_gear/?quiz=1
Xtranormal	animation, storytelling, movie maker	http://www.xtranormal.com/
Youtube	video uploading and sharing	http://www.youtube.com/
Zoomerang	online polls, surveys and analysis	http://www.zoomerang.com/

Christmas dictionary



Croatian - Sretan Božić!



English - Merry Christmas!



Italian - Buon Natale!



Polish - Wesółych Świąt!



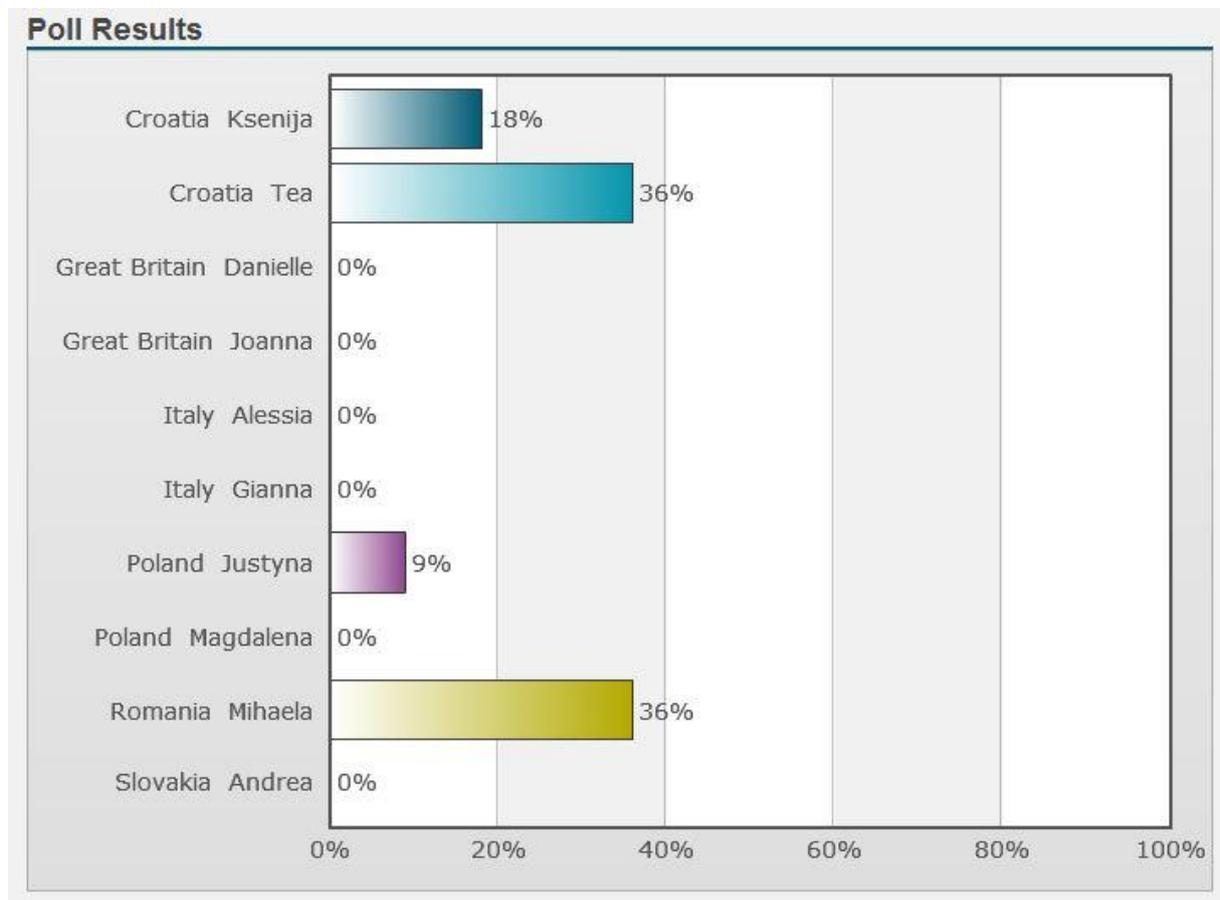
Romanian - Crăciun fericit!



Slovak - veselé Vianoce!

Winners of the Festival

The best performance of the national version of "Silent Night":



Congratulations to Romania and Croatia!

The best song:

Project Evaluation

The evaluation of the project was conducted by using the Zoomerang survey. The teachers who were partners in this project taught the following subjects: English (67%), Italian (22%) or the combination of the previous as well as other subjects such as music, history or were simply an online collaboration expert. All the teachers who participated in the project answered the following questions and here is the summary of the results:

Why did you decide to join XMAS FESTIVAL project?

The teachers joined the project because they were either asked by their eTwinning friends, colleagues or former partners. Another important factor was that the founder was a colleague from the same country. The topic of Christmas, Holidays and carol singing brought the excitement to pupils, so that was another reason for joining the project, as well as motivating the pupils. Besides enjoyment, teachers also appreciated preparedness, leadership and organization of this project, so all together, it was a pure joy to be a partner in this project. For some teachers the reason of joining was to face challenges in the quest for perfection, especially for some beginners in eTwinning who were quite motivated to learn and teach in cooperation with fellow teachers while being creative. Interest in other countries' culture, festivals motivated some teachers to involve their pupils in the project. Another significant factor in deciding to join this project was good experience in the previous and very similar project called "Let the Children Sing" last year. Since the children absolutely loved sharing songs that they were learning, and hearing songs that were being learnt in other countries, too. It was a fabulous opportunity to join in with another singing eTwinning project and some teachers are eager to do similar project again.

Cooperation and useful ideas

89% of the teachers cooperated regularly on the project, and everyone involved their pupils in the project, which confirms its success. When asked to rank the things they found most useful in the project the results show that using Web 2.0 tools such as YouTube, Vimeo, blogs, Voki, Animoto, Extranormal etc. was the most useful, as well as cooperation with fellow teachers, modernizing their teaching and promoting their school or disseminating info from the project within their school. The components

that turned out to be less useful, but nevertheless less important were learning about different European cultures or students and teachers practicing English language. This could be due to the fact that the project was for young learners and in English EFL classes throughout Europe, teachers do not have too much time to teach culture, which is highly demanding and sometimes difficult part to teach, especially if it is not the part of the target language, i.e. English culture.

What is the thing you liked THE BEST in the project?

The things teachers liked the best in the project was a very informal, very friendly but, at the same time, discretely, very well led projects by two great founders: Polish and Croatia, who were working simultaneously. It was the relaxing work for some teachers, with no pressure from anyone, just a joy of sharing and learning from each other. Teachers also liked cooperation with other teachers from different countries and visibility of all the activities on TwinSpace. Croatian activities were quite impressive for some teachers, as well as the fact that most of teachers and students really enjoyed and had fun doing the project activities. The students were enthusiastic about preparing carols and materials and the atmosphere of creativity and involvement was special. It was a challenging and motivating experience in cooperative spirit. The children being able to see students from around Europe and sing alongside them on our school computers was no obstacle. Although not there in person everyone had very much enjoyed playing other's videos and singing with them.

What did you NOT like in the project?

Not everything is always perfect, and teachers had the remarks about unpleasant situations when some partners couldn't cope with new technologies, were not skilled in uploading or when some people did not participate fully or when cooperation and communication was not good enough in some cases. On the other hand, most teachers had nothing to dislike, but were limited when they could not use Youtube to publish their work, due to school restrictions or parents not approving. Another bad side was the use of the platform on line which was a problem for some teachers. Finally, the only thing all the teachers could justifiably complain about were the time restrictions. It is so busy at school during the Christmas period and the only down side was not having as much time as they would like to participate in this eTwinning project.

What did you learn in the project?

The teachers learnt the most valuable in the sense of a good will and care, a friendly attitude towards each other: UNITED WE WERE ALL!!! That great collaboration is very rare to get! They also learned how to use new Web 2.0 tools in teaching, how to coordinate and get good ideas for implementing in the project. An important fact the teachers mentioned is that it is possible to teach other habits, to communicate, to share experiences, to cooperate even if there are many kilometers of distance between them. Besides that, they got the knowledge about other cultures and Xmas traditions in Europe. It was a great way to make contact with a range of different teachers from across Europe, and to be able to share the children's singing. The beginners in eTwinning learnt how to make a project with other country in eTwinning platform.

What web 2.0 tools did you use?

Since the table with the resources is already summarized, it is interesting to see which tools stuck to teachers and which they liked the best: Wallwisher, Smilebox, Tripadvisor, Slideboom, Quizmaker, Animoto, Dvolver, Mixbook, Voicethread, wiki, Youtube videos, Xtranormal, Vimeo, Scrapblog, Voki, Online Radio station, Kizoa, blogs. Although the most active teachers in the project seemed to use Web 2.0 tools, the majority of the teachers did not know what these tools are or even in some schools, school computers do not have access to them (eg. Youtube). No matter how interesting and innovative these tools are in the teaching, it is still highly necessary to educate teachers more in the field of the new media and tools so they could be able to use them more efficiently and their school could make the policy of their use.

Dissemination

All of the teachers disseminated their work in the project via school or classroom performances for Christmas. 56% of the teachers managed to organize a school performance and 44% of them organized a classroom performance. All of the performances were presented on TwinSpace via YouTube or Vimeo videos, or were uploaded to a special folder there. The further dissemination of this project will be by using teachers profiles on eTwinning (67%), on school website (44%), on big posters, personal teachers' websites, in a class assembly which parents attend, or in a journal, local newspaper or a magazine for teachers (22%) and local websites.

