



NEWSLETTER

JINGLE ALL THE WAY!

**QUICK TIP!**

**DID YOU KNOW:**

- The statue of Liberty is the largest Christmas gift ever given.
- These days, over a billion and a half Christmas cards are sent each year in the U.S.
- Christmas days boast the lowest number of relationship breakups.
- It is the most popular time of the year to propose.
- Home-Along is the highest grossing Christmas movie of all time.
- The tradition of putting up a Christmas tree is more than 500 years old.
- Jingle Bells was the first song played in space.

**Christmas around the world**

**Australia**

In Australia Christmas comes towards the beginning of their summer holidays which means it is never a white Christmas! Even though, the traditions and celebrations are perfectly in accord with the Christmas celebrations elsewhere. Despite the blistering sunny days, the Aussies make it a point to recreate the Christmas spirit by depicting Santa, snowflakes, snowman and other winter icons in their decorations, celebrations and greeting cards. They like to enjoy their food outdoors, which explains why Christmas picnic is a huge rage during summer time.



**United States**

Because of its multi-cultural nature, the U.S.A has many different traditions that people celebrate Christmas. The Christmas dinner in the U.S. includes turkey or ham, potatoes and pie. Cakes are of course, a must for the occasion. On Christmas Eve, children go to bed early but not before hanging up their stockings on the fireplace or the end of their bed to be filled with gifts and goodies by Santa Claus. On the following morning, children wake up to look for their desired items in their stockings and also find nicely wrapped presents under their Christmas tree.



**Asia**

Christmas in Asia has a more nonspiritual view that a religious one. Christmas wreaths, Merry Christmas banners, colorful lights and ornaments can be seen everywhere, since most of these decorations are made in China anyway. In most Asian countries it is not recognized as a public holiday, which means that the offices as well as the schools, colleges and universities remain open.



**Break from classes**

Time for a short break from our lessons! December 23<sup>rd</sup> is the last day of classes for Casa College and Kasa High School before the Christmas Holiday. The College administrative offices will be open during the two-week holiday apart from December 31<sup>st</sup>. Classes start again on January 7<sup>th</sup>.

**HOSPITALITY CORNER**

**CHRISTMAS - GINGERBREAD BISCUITS** by *Chrysoulla Trisvei*



**INGREDIENTS**

- 350g / 12oz plain flour
- tsp bicarbonate of soda
- 2 tsp ground ginger powder
- tsp ground cinnamon powder
- 125g / 4½oz unsalted butter
- 175g / 6oz light soft brown sugar
- 1 egg
- 4 tbsp golden syrup

**TO DECORATE**

- writing icing (optional)
- cake decorations (optional)

**METHOD**

1. Sift together the flour, bicarbonate of soda, ginger and cinnamon and pour into the bowl of a food processor. Add the butter and blend until the mix looks like breadcrumbs. Stir in the sugar.
2. Lightly beat the egg and golden syrup together, add to the food processor and pulse until the mixture clumps together. Take the dough out, knead briefly until smooth, wrap in cling film and leave to chill in the fridge for 15 minutes. Preheat the oven to 180C/160C.
3. Fan/Gas 4. Line two baking trays with greaseproof paper.
4. Roll the dough out to a 0.5cm in thickness on a lightly floured surface. Using cutters, cut out the gingerbread men shapes and place on the baking tray, leaving a gap between them.
5. Bake for 12-15 minutes, or until lightly golden-brown. Leave on the tray for 10 minutes and then move to a wire rack to finish cooling. Decorate with the writing icing and cake decorations.

