**Good Bye 2016, Welcome 2017**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| Find someone who… | Name | More information |
| ate little during Christmas.Q: |  |  |
| got a present they didn’t like.Q: |  |  |
| talked to somebody who lives far away during Christmas.Q: |  |  |
| went shopping on 27th Dec. Q:  |  |  |
| did sport during the break.Q: |  |  |
| worked between Xmas and New Year. Q: |  |  |
| got very drunk on New Year’s Eve.Q: |  |  |
| spent New Year’s Eve with a lot of people. Q:  |  |  |

Do you usually look at the upcoming year with optimism or pessimism?

Will next year be better or worse than this year? Why do you think so?

On a scale of ten, with ten points the highest possible score, how would you rate this past year? Did you make new friends?

What fun things did you do?

What was the best time of 2016?

What important lessons did you learn?

If you could make three wishes for the next year which would definitely come true, what would you wish for?

**Good year, bad year**

Some years are better or more enjoyable/successful than others. We remember these years and the

special things that happened.

Choose a good year for you. Tell the class why the year was special: What happened? What did

you do? Who did you meet? Where did you go?

**New Year’s Resolutions**

Here are some common New Year’s resolutions (personal plans for the coming year). Tick the resolutions you would like to make.

I’m going to…..

• Exercise: do more / join a gym / take up a sport

• Health: lose some weight / go on a diet / eat less chocolate / stop smoking/ give up junk food

• Hobbies: start a new hobby/ join a club/ learn a new skill (how to cook, paint, play an instrument)

• Friends: make new friends / write to friends more / be kinder to friends/ spend more or less time

with friends

• Studies: study more / do more homework / listen more in class/ get books from the library / read

more

• Money: get a Saturday or holiday job / save more money / spend less / be careful with pocket

money

• Stress: worry less / work less / relax more at the weekends / go to bed earlier

**Ways to celebrate the New Year**

Read the descriptions of celebrations around the UK below and answer:

• Who has the quietest time on New Year’s Eve?

• Who likes celebrating outside with lots of people?

• Who celebrates Hogmanay?

• Who starts the New year with a splash?

• Who is going to be very tired on New Year’s Day?

• Why is Uncle John the best person to have at your door on January 1st?

**Celebrating the New Year**

The start of the New Year on January 1st is a popular time for celebrating all across the UK.

Celebrations can start early on New Year’s Eve, December 31st, as people meet up with friends

and family members. Many people have a drink in a pub or go to a special party in someone’s

home. Everyone hopes to start off the New Year with good intentions so they make some

resolutions to help them have a successful year.

British Council asked young people around the UK about their plans for New Year’s Eve and what their

New Year’s resolutions are:

*Mary 17 Glasgow*

*My Plans*

New Year, or Hogmanay, is more important than Xmas to some people in Scotland. I am invited

to two Hogmanay parties and I intend going to both ! We usually sing Auld Lang Syne at midnight

and my Uncle John is always our first footer at home. He’s the first person to enter our house after midnight. It is good luck if this person is a tall man with dark hair, just like my Uncle.

*My resolutions*

Eat fewer sweets, be nicer to my little brother and improve my computer skills

*Ben 16 Brighton*

*My plans*

I am joining my parents in a New Year’s Day swim this year. It’s freezing cold in the water but it is a fun

way to start the year. Quite a lot of people meet on Brighton beach for this first swim of the year. I hope it doesn’t snow. I won’t be out partying the night before because I don’t like all the noise and drinking! My family usually have a quiet evening and watch the celebrations on TV.

*My resolutions*

Do some voluntary work in my area and improve my tennis. Maybe be nicer to my girlfriend!!

*Sophie 18 Newcastle Upon Tyne*

*My plans*

I am going to the centre of Newcastle with my cousins and friends to see in the New Year. I love being in a crowd when the clocks strike midnight. Everyone kisses each other, sings and drinks champagne. This is the first New year’s Eve in the streets as my parents said I was too young last year. We will probably get back home at four or five in the morning.

*My resolutions*

Learn how to play the guitar and talk less in class! Study hard to get good grades for university.

Are any of the things similar to New Year celebrations in our country?

What traditional ways of welcoming the New Year do you have in your family or in our region?

How old are your New Year traditions? Did your grandparents celebrate in the same way?

Are children allowed to stay up late to see in the New Year?

Are there any special meals or activities for New Year’s Day?

What was the best New Year's you have ever experienced?

What was the worst New Year's you have ever experienced?