## **Christmas customs in Europe**

Zapraszam do udziału w świątecznym wyzwaniu z języka angielskiego. Poczytaj o nietypowych tradycjach świątecznych w wybranych krajach w Europie i dopasuj obrazek prezentujący tradycję do kraju z którego pochodzi (np. Greece – B). Kartkę z odpowiedziami dostarcz swojej nauczycielce języka angielskiego do **17 grudnia**. Uczniowie którzy poprawnie rozwiążą to zadanie otrzymają ocenę celującą za aktywność.













Christmas starts on 8 December in *Spain* with the Feast of the Immaculate Conception. Another thing that happens in Catalonia on the 8th is the beating of the **Tió de Nadal** or **Christmas log.** Every night until the 24th of December, children 'feed' the happy log with dried fruit and nuts. They also cover up Tió de Nadal with a blanket so he stays warm. Then, come Christmas Eve, the little log is brought out and beaten with sticks by children while they sing a traditional song. After this the children look under the blanket to find that **Tió de Nadal** has 'pooped' out lots of treats! In Poland, families traditionally gather for a meal on Christmas Eve. They will start eating when they see the first star in the night sky. The meal has 12 courses, which will traditionally include carp, a kind of fish. It will also include the family sharing a special bread wafer, which symbolises forgiveness. Later the whole family will sing Christmas carols and find presents under the Christmas tree. Christmas celebrations start early in **the Netherlands**, and **parts of Belgium**, as **Sinterklaas**- that is **St Nicholas** - arrives by boat on the last Saturday in November.He travels across the Netherlands dressed in red bishops robes. He also doesn't ride in a **sleigh** like Father Christmas is seen to do in the UK, instead, he travels on a **white horse** called Amerigo. When he arrives, children leave a shoe out for him with a carrot or hay for his horse Amerigo. Celebrations in **Germany** start earlier in December on St Nicholas Day (6 December). Children leave shoes outside of their front door, which Father Christmas - or Nikolaus, as they call him - will leave **presents** in if they have been good. If they've been naughty, his servant Knecht Ruprecht will leave **twigs** for them! In **Greece** children go from house to house on **Christmas Eve**, playing music and singing carols in return for treats to eat. Before Christmas, fresh basil is wrapped around a wooden cross, which is used to sprinkle water around the house to keep away mischievous goblins called Killantzaroi. On January 6th, this is called **Kings' Day, Three Kings' Day and Epiphany** and in France, there is a tradition which means that French families will buy a 'Galette des Rois' which is a special tart and a small porcelain object called a 'fève' is hidden inside and the person who gets this in their portion is proclaimed the king (or queen) for the day and wears a paper crown and can choose his king/queen